THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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CALCUTTA:—MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1883.

Per Annum in Advance.
TOWN.....11-8
MOFUSSIL.....13-4

LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 24TH SEPTEMBER.

THE IMPROVEMENTS in the Royal Botanical Gardens, Calcutta, sanctioned by Sir Richard Temple in 1874, were completed last year. The following is a sketch of the improvements:

"The whole extent of the grounds has been raised in level, the necessary soil having been obtained from large sheets of ornamental water which have been cut out. These artificial lakes have been connected with each other by underground pipes, and a steam pump has been supplied, by which the water in the whole system can be kept at a high level by means of water pumped up from the river. Numerous wide roads have been made all through the garden, so that carriages may now be driven through every part of it. This is an improvement which is much appreciated, as the old restriction to driving acted to a great extent as a deterrent to visitors. Numerous foot-paths have also been made. The bamboo and mat erections, which used to do duty as conservatories, have been replaced by three large, handsome, and efficient structures of iron, on which a thin thatch of grass is spread, and under the shelter of which tropical plants thrive admirably. The valuable collection of dried plants has been suitably housed in a handsome building designed by Mr. E. J. Martin, the Government Architect, the internal arrangements of which are to a considerable extent adapted from those of the new Herbarium building at Kew. New propagating houses, tool, and potting-sheds have been erected, and good dwelling houses have been built for the members of the garden establishment, both European and native. A boundary wall and ditch have been partly built round the garden; and finally, attempts at landscape effects have been made in the gardens, and the collections have been increased by considerable accessions of plants, both indigenous and exotic."

The credit of preparing and carrying out the scheme belongs to Dr. King.

MALE THIEVES in women's clothes are visiting railway stations in the large provincial towns of England. Such thieves are not unknown in India though rarely detected.

DURING the past five years the gold imported and not re-shipped, has amounted in value to no less than 1,428 lakhs of rupees or about 12 millions sterling. The imports have steadily increased year by year since 1878.

A BOMBAY PAPER hears from Nargole that in a village close by the place a low-caste Hindu woman named Ladoo, about twenty-five years of age, gave birth to three children on the evening of the 30th ultimo, the mother and children are doing well.

MR. R. BOSWORTH SMITH'S *Life of Lord Lawrence*, issued in America by Messrs Scribner, has met with a reception more enthusiastic than any other English book republished there in recent years. The Government of the United States have ordered that a copy of it shall be placed not only in the library of every ship in the navy, but also in every public library throughout the country. So India is appreciated in America.

THE EXPENDITURE on education in England and Wales has increased from one million and a half pounds, sterling, in 1870, to five million and a half in 1882—almost a fourfold increase in the twelve years. In addition to this, upwards of twenty-six millions has been spent on school buildings; nearly fifteen millions of which was for school-board schools, built by public loan, and five millions provided exclusively by voluntary contributions.

OUR PRESENT educational system was first organized in 1855. There were 51,000 schools and colleges in India at that time, with about 930,000 pupils. In 1870-71 the number of schools rose to 85,000 and that of pupils to 1,700,000. In 1881-82 the number of institutions was as large as 116,000, and the number of scholars 2,760,000. In the official year 1881-82, the total expenditure on education in this country amounted to Rs. 18,777,000 in round numbers, of which Public Funds contributed more than Rs. 10,400,000, or nearly 55½ per cent.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE has given notice that in terms of the original contract of 1858, the Government will take over the Eastern Bengal Railway on the 30th of June next. The line will then probably be worked as a State concern for the following year or so, until the vexed question of the Calcutta Central Station is settled. After that the Bengal Central Company may very likely obtain a working lease of the property.

TUESDAY, 25TH SEPTEMBER.

THE PIONEER thus sums up its verdict on the Great Missionary Case:

By the course and conclusion of this trial a smart blow has been struck at the usefulness of Missionary enterprise in India, and a woman has been very deeply wronged. But the proceedings in Calcutta before Mr. Justice Norris, commencing on August 28th and ending on September 15th, have collaterally done something more. They have weakened the respect attaching to a self-sacrificing body of labourers hitherto thought to be disinterested; they have shown these same labourers in a contemptible light, intemperate, sticking at nothing in hounding the object of their aversions, careless of their vocation's credit, and aiming only at their own small ends. Judicially, *Pigot* vs. *Hastie*—it should be styled *Hastie* vs. *Pigot*—has achieved one thing more; it has shown a member of the High Court in the capital not for the first time rendering himself conspicuous by a careless, hasty, and unrighteous decision; leaving, in apparent anxiety to take advantage of his holiday, a vexatious, disquieting, and discreditable piece of litigation still unsettled. The case itself as a whole has brought Scottish Missionary administration into an odium we cannot speak of but with regret. This judgment in the High Court which closed it, based on an inconcievably false estimate of the evidence and displaying but a poor knowledge of human nature, has gone near crushing weak, luxurious, and imprudent, but, so far as our own conviction upon a close review of the testimony goes, not a sinning woman.

THE CALCUTTA CORRESPONDENT of the *Pioneer* on the same subject:

Opinions in regard to the justice of the judgment differ much amongst the general public, but as far as I can gauge the opinions of men I hear discussing it, I find the majority opine that the judgment was just, and suitable upon the whole to the requirements of the case. I incline to their opinion. Taken together, all the evidence and proceedings before Mr. Justice Norris, shows, I think, that his lordship's judgment is a fair just, and suitable one, and the majority of us are of the same opinion. While views differ to some extent as to the justice of the judgment there is but one opinion in Calcutta on Mr. Justice Norris's own conduct in connection with this most important case, and that opinion is one of severe condemnation. During the few years of my residence here I have never heard greater indignation more widely expressed in this city, than at several stages in the recent trial, in regard to the would be funny observations cynical remarks, disparagement and bullying of witnesses, cross-examination of them in a manner most uncalled for on the part of Mr. Justice Norris. My experience of courts and legal proceedings I own is limited, but judging from personal observations of Mr. Justice Norris's conduct towards Mr. Hastie at the commencement of the trial, the Judge might have been taken to be under the impression that he was simply going through the farce of trying a wretched old offender for a criminal offence to which the prisoner had previously pleaded guilty. Mr. Justice Norris's petulant, childish exclamations, objectionable remarks, and general discourtesy towards the defendant at the beginning of the trial, when the Judge was manifestly biassed in favour of the plaintiff have excited universal disapproval amongst the people here, who look for a calm dignified demeanour even in a native magistrate, much less in a High Court Judge.

A CORRESPONDENT, who signs himself, M. has contributed a valuable letter to the *Englishman* on the Rent question. He thus discusses the question of the waste lands:

"If what Mr. Colebrooke has stated in his "Popes of Indian Statesman," p. 214, be correct, that when the permanent settlement was effected by Lord Cornwallis thirty millions of acres were under cultivation—that is to say, they were then under tillage by *khodkast* and *pykast*, or ryots of any sort—and if it should be a fact also that at the present day some seventy millions of acres and upwards are under cultivation in the permanently settled provinces, then it follows that the difference between the two quantities, or forty millions of acres, is the quantity of land that no ryots of any description had any right to between 1793 and 1795, and that, therefore, those forty millions of acres of waste land having been passed by the settlement contract belonged exclusively to the zemindar and became part and parcel of his *seer*, or *nizabad*, or *khamar* land. What can Mr. Ilbert have to say to this addition to his extraordinary theory about the zemindar's "khamar land?

The writer thus concludes:

The only body of men that the Government of England has up to this time never had a word to say against on the score of good behaviour and devoted loyalty were and are the zemindars of Behar and Bengal. That their political importance has decreased somewhat since the invasion of capital and commerce into the outer circle of native patrician society does not admit of doubt; but at the same time, and after all, they (the zemindars), and they alone, are the leaders of the people, and none better are there, or will ever be, in the land. Let any body recall the ghastly and heart-rending details of the "Annals of the Indian Rebellion of 1857" and say whether it was the ryot, the fat *bunnia*, or those thakurs and half-starved petty zemindars of the North-West and Behar that saved the lives of Englishmen and the honour of English women in those days; and, after all, those days are not so very far back either.

We hope the correspondent will continue his letters.

THE BOMBAY Town Council has reduced the magnificent vote of the Municipal Corporation, of half a lakh of rupees, for feting H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught, to 2000 rupees. The sum will just pay for an address and a casket to put it into.

SOME INTEREST has been excited in Madras in consequence of the sun presenting a peculiar greenish appearance at certain periods of the day. It is believed that the phenomenon is due to the passage across India of a tremendous volume of sulphurous vapour arising from the recent volcanic disturbance in the Sunda Straits.

REPORTS about the pearl fishery in the Gulf of Mexico describe it as quite surpassing previous expectations. Most of the bivalves brought up from the deeper portions of the sea have pearls, and there is an excitement in the ports along the Gulf which resembles what happens on the discovery of new gold fields. The pearls are often of singular purity and size.

WEDNESDAY, 26TH SEPTEMBER.

THE TIMES OF INDIA on the Great Missionary Case:

The Calcutta Defamation Case has ended in a satisfactory manner. Everybody is punished all round, and everybody gets, we think, what he deserves. The conduct of the Judge who tried the case has still to be examined, and here again the public verdict is not likely to be in his favour. We have no intention of recapitulating the evidence. It was enough to have to publish such nauseous details in our columns devoted to the law reports. But to understand the judgment it will be necessary to understand the original plaint. Miss Pigot, the plaintiff, an educated Eurasian woman of forty-six years of age, and till lately Lady Superintendent of the Scottish Ladies Association in Calcutta, brought an action against Mr. Hastie, Principal of the General Assembly's Institution in Calcutta. Mr. Hastie had made a series of formal charges against her, which were examined by the Ladies' Association in Scotland, who exonerated Miss Pigot from all blame. He then forwarded a number of letters received from various parties and endorsed by his own remarks. The charges contained in these letters were of so grave a nature that Miss Pigot was informed that unless she could disprove them she would be deprived of her situation in the school. Accordingly she brought this action for libel against Mr. Hastie, who had made himself responsible for the documents he forwarded to Scotland; and the damages were laid at Rs. 20,000. The letters contained charges of the grossest immorality against Miss Pigot, especially in connection with a Babu named Kali Churn Bannerjee, and also charged her with beating and maltreating the school girls. The first series of charges have been proved up to the hilt, and so far as they are concerned Mr. Hastie was justified in the publication of the letters. Mr. Justice Norris found that Miss Pigot had been guilty of criminal impropriety, not with Babu Kali Churn Bannerjee alone, but also with Mr. Wilson, a Scotch missionary, and Mr. Chunder Coomer Dey, a native doctor. There was, however, a want of proof in reference to the charges of ill-treating the school-girls, and that, said Mr. Norris, would in itself be sufficient to entitle the plaintiff to a verdict. She gets the verdict and one anna for damages, instead of the Rs. 20,000 she claimed; and she and Mr. Hastie will each have to pay their own costs. As it is impossible to have any sympathy for either of them, and as each will now be punished, the decision of the learned Judge will be received with general satisfaction by all who have followed the disgusting and wearisome details of the last ten days.

MR. GLADSTONE contributes to the forthcoming number of the *Nineteenth Century* a translation into Italian of Cowper's well-known hymn, "Hark! my soul, it is the Lord." What vigour and versatility of mind!

THE TRUSTEES of the Gilchrist Scholarship Fund have decided to admit candidates from Ceylon equally with those from India to compete for the yearly scholarship of £150 to be held at the University of London. This step had been taken owing to the very small competition among natives of India for these scholarships during recent years.

THE NEW system of spelling is causing a wild excitement amongst English-speaking Burmese. One writes to the local papers that whereas he has hitherto been known amongst his friends as Oo Htoo, by the official spelling just introduced he becomes *U-Tu*. The interfering with well-known names was a very ill-advised measure, and will result in endless confusion, for only those who are obliged to do so will adopt the official spelling.

THE RECENT volcanic disturbances in Java and Sumatra were felt as far north as Mergui and Tavoy. The Inspector-General of Police publishes the diaries of the superintendents of those stations, from which it appears that on the 27th August unusual sounds resembling minute-guns were heard at both places. At Tavoy a steam-launch was sent out to search the coast for a wreck, or a ship in distress, but naturally saw nothing.

THE STATISTICS of insanity and idiocy in the United States are very curious, females showing a great many more cases of insanity than males, and males a great many more cases of idiocy than females. Of 91,997 insane people, 44,408 are males, and 47,589 are females; while of 76,895 idiots, 45,309 are males and only 31,536 are females. It

appears, therefore, that in the United States at all events, the female sex is much more subject to violent mental disease, while the male sex is much more subject to imbecility.

THURSDAY, 27TH SEPTEMBER.

A BEERBHUM Correspondent has sent us the following :

A paper was read at the last meeting of the Calcutta Medical Society, published in the *Indian Medical Gazette* of September, by Dr. Roy, Civil Surgeon of Beerbhum on the alleged malarious causation of dysentery bearing on the question of excessive mortality in Bengal jails. This mortality the Inspector General has remarked in his last administration Report as due to the malarious climate of Bengal and its general unhealthiness. In refutation of the argument Dr. Roy makes the following observation :—" The jail prisoners, recruited from the same class of men as suffer from fever outside ought to shew the same mortality as the civil population. In fact under better hygienic conditions they ought to tide over the crisis and show a better standard of health. If instead, we have a mortality of 30 to 90 per 1000 in the jail as compared with 02 per 1000 amongst the civil population (i. e.) 1000 times more, how are we reconcile ourselves to the belief that the deaths are not due to conditions peculiar to jail life." Dr. Cayley's experience confirmed Dr. Roy's views. In the jail dysentery prevailed while it did not rage outside and fever was rare in the jails while it raged amongst the surrounding population. Moulvi Zahur Uddeen Ahmed said he used to treat 300 to 400 cases in the dispensary at Burdwan but he saw very little of dysentery amongst them.

Thus it would appear the malarious causation of dysentery does not seem to rest on any undisputed basis. We recommend the paper to the notice of the Government of India.

IT APPEARS from some letters we have received that the discontinuance of the practice of *Gazetting* the appointments of the Upper Subordinates in the Public Works Department is considered by them a serious grievance. Why is this practice discontinued ? Surely the cost of printing the names, which is not worth a thought, has not led to this retrograde move.

A CORRESPONDENT evidently in the service writes :—" While so much is said of the grievances of the upper subordinates in the Public Works Department is there nobody to lift his voice in favour of the lower subordinates who are as much hard-worked as the upper ones, and who perhaps undergo greater toil and trouble." Surely something ought to be done for them.

WE HAVE received a printed paper from which we learn that some experiments were made to test the efficiency of iron sugar-cane mills against the common wooden-roller country mill. The iron-roller mill used at Golaghat was Cantwell's patent cane-roller whilst that used at Habigung was the Belon mill, Thomson and Mylne's patent. The results were that the Belon mill crushed 144 lbs of cane per hour, the wooden-roller mill 193, but the iron roller mill gave 1·7 per cent. more juice. At Golaghat Cantwell's patent mill crushed 35 lbs of cane per hour yielding 36 per cent. of juice, the wooden mill crushed only 70lbs yielding 35 per cent of juice. The Gurh obtained from the iron mill was 7½ lbs. from 100 lbs of cane, while from this wooden mill it was only 3 lbs. The iron mill is evidently both economical and more useful.

MURDER SEEMS to be in the air ! A murder was lately committed in Bara Bazar. A double murder was committed last week in the Jorabagan section. A poor woman and her daughter were cut up by her paramour. The culprit then put an end to his own life.

THE INDU PRAKASH on the Great Missionary Case :

The case of Miss Pigot vs. Hastie, which appears to have stirred up Calcutta Society to its depths has uplifted a veil over Zenana missionary life and Christain morality which it is most sad to contemplate. It has shown up the character of the principal actors, Miss Pigot, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Hastie, Mr. Fish, and others, in a light, that to say the least, is highly discreditable to them. The *Englishman* and other Calcutta papers try to gloss over the faults of Miss Pigot and others connected with the case. It is here that the native view of conduct of persons in such relations differs from the English or the Anglo Indian. Where an Englishman considers a certain piece of conduct as mere freedom, or innocent levity, the Native resents it as little short of ill-treatment, which when pushed a little further is tantamount to guilt. We should be the last to comment on unpleasant revelations made in course of the evidence offered on both sides. Such cases are exceptionally rare, but they nevertheless serve to point a moral of the highest significance to the Christain and non-Christain classes. The Christain missionaries must bear in mind that they cannot hope to win the confidence and respect of the higher classes of the Native community unless they show better examples of conduct and morality in actual life than are to be met with in native society A single case like that of Miss Pigot vs. Hastie does infinite damage to missionary enterprise in India, since it is only by a higher estimate formed of his moral character by the natives of India that a missionary can hope to succeed in his work. Ordinarily we should not care to notice a case of this kind, for the simple reason that the depravity and weakeness of man or woman which it exposes to the full blaze of light are common to human nature all the world over, but what the surprises us and the outside world most is the levity of conduct, and the absence of a high moral tone among persons having the management of a public institution, an institution which is of an educational character, and which is designed to serve as an example to surrounding native society.

THE INDIAN SPECTATOR, while condemning Mr. Justice Norris's demeanour on the bench in the trial of the Great Missionary Case, is of opinion that " he did substantial justice to both parties on the merits of the case."

FRIDAY, 28TH SEPTEMBER.

WE HAVE RECEIVED the following letter from Tirhoot :

Sir ;—The relations between the Planters and Zemindars of this district is anything but satisfactory, at present. Of late, there have been numerous disputes and litigation between them which go to indicate clearly the state of feelings between the parties. The prominent of them have been the cases between Messrs Byng, Hudson and Lamb and Babu Gujraj Sahay, of Shahpore, Indigo concern ; those between the Motipore and Kanti concerns on one side and Babu Mothura Dass, a zemindar and banker of Mozufferpore on the other ; and those between the Motipore concern and Babu Balkishun Lal of Patna. In all these disputes the poor helpless zemindars have suffered most seriously by coming in contact with that august body, which claims immunity from being tried before tribunals presided over by natives. The losses and expenses these zemindars had to sustain and undergo in consequence have been enormous, not to mention the worry and trouble and anxieties attendant in criminal trials. Of all the expenses those of law have told heavily upon them. They had to engage the services of renowned barristers fully conscious that if their say was to be heard by the tribunals it would be so through them.

A criminal case has lately been decided here by Mr. Stewart the Deputy Magistrate in favor of the European gentlemen of Motipore ; the case as far as I have been able to gather from counsel's address to the Court was between Mr. Byng lately of Gujraj Sahay's famous case now manager of an outwork at Motipore and Babu Balkishen Lal a zemindar owning a big estate in the vecinity of Motipore. The charge was brought by Mr. Byng against certain ryots, adherents of the Zemindar, of having been members of an unlawful assembly and of having pursued and beaten his horse while out in his zillah. The case was heard by Mr. Stewart in the first court ; Messrs Jackson and Apear two able barristers of the Calcutta bar were on the scene, the latter for the prosecution. Mr. Jackson argued his case very ably ; but with all his able address the result was that the poor creatures were convicted. The case was also argued by Mr. Jackson in appeal before Mr. Brett, the judge, but to the great surprise of the public he upheld the conviction only reducing the sentence on Saturday the 22nd instant.

The root of the dispute is said to be the refusal of the Zemindar to lease his estate to the factory and his building a factory on his own land, which it is thought would prejudice the interests of the concern. To prevent him carrying out his intentions, it is rumoured, numerous devices are being resorted to, one of them is that advantage is being taken of the proposed Rent-Law in anticipation to induce the ryots to sell or mortgage their holdings in the estate in order to secure a firm footing in and hold of the estate in which the Baboo has built his factory.

By the above fact I beg to call the attention of the advocates of the transferability of occupancy rights to the danger of such a concession to the ryots. In a district like Tirhoot where there are so many Indigo concerns at small distances from each other always striving to gain a footing in villages all around and at constant feuds with the Zemindars legislation in this direction would surely work to the great trouble and detriment of the Zemindars, to no profit of the Ryot, but to a decided advantage of the planters.

Yours faithfully,
W. D.

P. S.—Since writing the above it has been heard that on Mr. Jackson's motion, a special appeal has been admitted by the High Court and the poor convicts in the above case have been released on bail on Monday the 24 instant which was refused by the Judge at first.

Tirhoot 25th September 1883.

THE TELEPHONE COMPANY, Calcutta, will employ female assistants. A contemporary thinks that native females may become cadidates !

THE FOLLOWING candidates have passed successfully the competitive examination for the Indian Medical Service, there being five vacancies :

Names.			Marks
Mr. J. J. Pratt	...	...	2475
Dr. N. Shore	...	...	2410
Mr. C. J. Sarkies	...	...	2341
Mr. W. S. Bannerman	...	...	2230
Mr. H. Thompson	...	...	2015

Is it true that the Indian candidates were not allowed to compete ?

A BILL has been introduced to amend the Legal Practitioners' Act. Section 13 is to be amended by enabling the pleader to take instructions from the relative of a party on whose behalf he is retained when the latter is unable from any sufficient cause to instruct his pleader in person. It is further provided that every order suspending or removing an Advocate, passed by any High Court other than the Punjab Chief Court, must be confirmed by the local Government.

THE BENGAL PUBLIC OPINION has the following :

We are happy to state that an influential meeting took place in Bhowanipore in the Suburbs of Calcutta to consider what steps should be taken to establish a College and a Hospital for the dissemination of the *kabiraji* or the system of indigenous drugs in Bengal. The Hon'ble Mr Justice Romesh Chunder Mitter, Babus Unnoda Prosad Banerjee, senior Government Pleader, Mohesh Chunder Choudry, Hem Chunder Bannerjee, Ishur Chunder Chuckerbutty and other influential members of the High Court appellate side bar, and Babu Jogendra Chunder Ghose of Kidderpore, zemindar, and several other influental members of the Native community, moved by Babu Gourinath Sen Kabiraj one of the distinguished Kabirajes practising here, have all resolved to put their shoulders to the wheel. It has been found necessary to raise two lakhs of rupees, out of the interest of which the College and the Hospital could be efficiently maintained, Babu Gourinath Sen has been requested to communicate with the other distinguished Kabirajes in Bengal and to issue an appeal backed by the gentlemen abovenamed.

We wish the project every success.

WE TAKE the following items of personal intelligence from the *Journal of the National Indian Association* for September—

Mr. M. L Dey has passed the final Examination for M. B, C. M., in the University of Glasgow.

Mr. U. N. Mukherji has passed the Final Examination for M.B., C. M., in the University of Edinburgh.

Mr, D. M. Ray has passed the L. S. A. (of London) Examination.

At the late Sessional Examination of Royal Agricultural College, Circnecester, the following Bengal Government Scholars deserved honorable mention :—Mr. Bose, 3,009 marks ; Mr. A. K. Ray, 2,944 ; Mr. P. R. Mehta, 2,888.

Mr. R. G. Kar has passed the First Examination of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh.

Mr. A. Mitra has passed the Examination in Latin required for registration as a Medical student at Edinburgh.

Mr. Hemdas Chubildas has joined the University of Cambridge and the Inner Temple.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA announces in an official communication to Mr. Ernest Hart, Chairman of the Parliamentary Bills Committee of the British Medical Association (says the *British Medical Journal*), that the general question of the organisation of the Indian Medical Service is at the present moment under the immediate consideration of the Government of India, with the view of removing, as far as possible, the inconvenience found to exist under the present system. This communication is in reply to a statement of the grievances of the service laid before the Secretary of State for India in Council on July 19th. We hope Natives of India will not be excluded from the Covenanted Medical Service. We hear that a strong move is being made towards that end.

SATURDAY 29TH, SEPTEMBER.

WE THANK Babu Beharilal Mozumdar for a specimen bottle of his medicated oil called *Sachi Bilas*. It is recommended as a medicinal oil for head-diseases.

WE ACKNOWLEDGED in our last issue the receipt of a Bengali book, entitled " Self-Denial or lives of Patriots and Philanthropists" by Jogendra Chunder Bandapadhya Vidyabhusun M. A. The characters are chiefly taken from the histories of England, Europe and America. The delineation is generally correct, the style good, and the moral well pointed. The book is fit to be placed in the hands of our school-boys. We would, however, recommend the author to exclude from the future edition of his work such divine characters as Mahadeva and Christ; they were neither " patriots" nor " philanthropists."

WE HAVE RECEIVED three numbers of a monthly Journal entitled *Bharatindu* or the Moon of India published at Muthura in Hindi and edited by Radha Churn Gosvami. The numbers before us contain some readable articles, and the spirit in which they have been written is excellent. One of the numbers contains a picture of the Car of Progress in India drawn by four representative men of India. In the fore-front is placed the Bengali, next the Maharatha, the third the Punjabi, and last the Hindustani. We congratulate Muthra on this unpretending but useful publication and wish the Maga a prosperous career.

A VERY INTERESTING scene took place at the Hare School the other day. Babu Tulsidas Mookerjee, B A. B.L., Mathematical teacher, Hare School, has just retired from the education service, and the boys of the school made a spontaneous and most enthusiastic demonstration to bid him farewell. We like to see grateful feelings of this kind cultivated by our boys.

THE HON'BLE SYED AHMED KHAN, C S.I., has started a scheme for the establishment in the Punjab of a Society for sending promising Mahomedan youths to England, in order to enable them to compete at Civil Service examinations. The Society is called " The Mahomedan Civil Service Fund Association." Membership involves a monthly payment of at least two rupees. This is a move in the right direction.

THE EDITOR of the *Statesman* has offered to receive subscriptions to enable Miss Pigott to appeal against the judgment of Mr. Norris.

AN ASSAM CORRESPONDENT writes to us as follows :

A noticeable case of suicide occurred here Dibrugarh the other day. Chantun, a well-known Chinaman of this place was charged by the Railway Company with the offence of cheat-

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ing. The case came on for hearing before Mr. J. J. Douglas C. S. The accused throughout the trial pleaded not guilty, but from the fact of the Company's European Solicitor being given a seat on the bench during the trial he concluded that though the evidence against him was of a doubtful nature he will be convicted. On the day of judgment he had taken with him some active poison which he kept concealed in his clothes. As soon as he became aware that sentence of imprisonment was about to be passed upon him he swallowed the poison, saying, he preferred death to dishonour. Mr. Douglas simply said "bus" and sent for the doctor reporting the matter at the same time to the Deputy Commissioner. The poor man died in about 20 hours. Cannot the Government prohibit the practice of Magistrates giving seats to solicitors and prosecutors on the Bench?

FRANCIS GALTON, the great author of the "Heredity of Genius," has contributed to the last number (Sept. 6, 1883) of *Nature* a letter on the Arithmetic Notation of Kinship. He thus begins:

Many writers have endeavoured to devise a simple method of describing the various forms of kinship, which, when expressed verbally, are cumbrous and puzzling in the highest degree. I suspect, however, that if we had always been as familiar with the binary system of arithmetic as we are with the decimal, that the facilities afforded by a numerical system of notation of kinship would have been so obvious that it would have been adopted as a matter of course. The notation I am about to propose is numerical, but it is not binary, it however contains simplicity, as we shall see, owing to the laws that govern numbers, the most important advantages of the binary notation, and it seems better to begin to explain it from the latter point of view.

We invite those amiable critics, whose risible faculty was moved by our article "on the co-ordinates and co efficients of Durga" in our last Durga Puja number, to read this learned letter of Galton.

THERE WERE 182 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 22nd September, of which 12 were from cholera, none from small-pox, 67 from fever, 15 from bowel complaints, 5 from accidents, 10 from pthisis and asthma, 29 from tetanus and the rest from other causes. Infant mortality 52. Among non-Asiatics and mixed races the deaths were 9. The average of daily mortality was 26.

HIS HIGHNESS the Maharaja of Kuch Behar has been appointed an Honorary Major in the British Indian Army.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals:—1. Report on the Charitable Dispensaries under the Government of Bengal for 1882. 2. Accounts of the External Land Trade of British India for 1882 83. 3. A List of Agricultural Implements and Machines which have been experimented with and found efficient and useful in India. 4. Report on the Vaccine operations in the Central Provinces for 1882-83. 5. Report on the Administration of the Hyderabad Assigned Districts for 1881-82. 6. The Law of Vendors and Purchasers of Immoveable Property in British India. By G. C. Set MABEL Attorney-at-law and Pleader of the High Court. 7. Indian Telegraph Guide No. XX Parts I and II. for October 1883. 8. Saddarshana Chintanika or Studies in Indian Philosophy vol. VI. Nos. 11 and 12. 9. Annals and Antiquities of Rajasthan. By Lt. Col. Tod (Popular Edition.) vol. II. Nos. 5 and 6. 10. The Mahabharata translated into English Prose. Published and distributed *gratis* by Protap Chunder Roy, Part III. 11. Ramayana with original text and Bengali translation, Sundarakand, No. 20 published and distributed *gratis* by Protap Chunder Roy. 12. Chittorunjini—an illustrated Bengali bi-monthly periodical vol. I. No. 5. 13. Hahnemann—A Homœpathic monthly Journal in Bengali vol. I. No. 6. 14. Gopal Bhaur—a comical Bengali Monthly, vol II. No. 5. 15. Bharutendu—3 nos.—A Hindi Journal published at Muthura.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London, September 23.—The post of Financial Adviser in Egypt has been offered to Mr. Vincent, President of the Foreign Bondholders at Constantinople.

23.—Several districts in the countries of Mayo, Clare and Limerick have been proclaimed. In consequence of the disturbed condition of the districts referred to, additional constables are required there. The *Daily News* publishes a telegram from the Cape, stating that the British authorities sent a message to Cetewayo asking him to surrender, but did not send him an ultimatum.

25.—A storehouse containing rockets at Woolwich arsenal was destroyed by fire yesterday. The fire caused a continuous exploding of rockets, lasting three-quarters of an hour. The rockets, which flew about in all directions, some going as far as six miles, caused great damage to property, two people losing their lives. It is believed that the catastrophe was purely accidental. News from the Transvaal states that the two chiefs Mampoer and Mapoich have been sentenced to death by the Boers. It is reported from Madagascar that the Hovas have retaken all the positions captured by the French on the North-West coast, with the exception of Majunga.

26.—The *Daily News* publishes a telegram from the Cape this morning, stating that Cetewayo has offered to surrender to the British authorities upon condition that his safety will be secured.

27.—The strike of fifteen thousand cotton spinners at Ashton under Lyne which was commenced on the 17th August terminated yesterday. News from Ireland states that the Orangmen are massing at Dungannon with the view of preventing a meeting of Parnellites intended to be held there to-day. The military were called out to disperse the mob. The Duke and Duchess of Connaught will embark at Brindisi for Bombay on November 5th.

28.—A vague rumour is being circulated here that Mr. Parnell has been shot. The Parnellite meeting at Dungannon yesterday passed off undisturbed. It is reported that Russian arms and men are continuously entering Bulgaria.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1883.

WHAT CONCESSIONS HAVE THE ZEMINDARS MADE?

IN the Rent Bill controversy it is generally assumed that the zemindars are too exacting or too unyielding, that they do not understand the principle of give and take, that they are not prepared to make any compromise. Is this really the case? Have the zemindars proposed no concessions? The charge is wholly untrue, and we will give a few facts in support of our statement.

I. *Occupancy Right.*—We need not repeat that the present rule of 12 years' possession constituting occupancy right has been declared by the highest legal and fiscal authorities to be an invasion of the proprietory rights in Bengal guaranteed by the Permanent Settlement Regulations. Sir Barnes Peacock, the late Chief Justice of the Bengal High Court, remarked that "it interferes with the just rights of the zemindars, at least in the permanent settled estates by vesting rights of occupancy in ryots, who had no previous existence." Mr. C. Steer, another Judge of the High Court, was of opinion that it "conferred rights on the ryots which they never had before." Mr. G. Loch, also a Judge of the High Court, held that under the old Regulations it was the *khoodkasht kudeemee* ryots, who had the right of occupancy. He asked the question, "who were these khoodkasht kudeemee ryots," and he thus answered it himself? "They are evidently ryots who were on the estate, cultivating the lands of the village in which they resided at the time of the decennial settlement. They are not ryots whose engagements date from a period *after* that settlement, who were settled by the first engager or his representative subsequently to the settlement; for such tenures were liable to be cancelled by the auction-purchaser. They were the ryots holding and cultivating lands in the village in which they resided at the time of the settlement of the estate, and as such *they and they alone are ryots who have a prescriptive right of occupancy.* All other ryots subsequently settled, though now residing in the village and cultivating lands of that village, though entitled to be called *khoodkasht* from that circumstance, are not *kudeemee*, and are either tenants-at-will, or tenants for a term, according as they hold their lands on lease, or otherwise. We may, I think, look through the length and breadth of the Regulations, and we shall find nothing that declares a ryot settled on an estate *subsequent* to the decennial settlement to be other than a tenant-at-will, nothing that recognises in such a ryot any prescriptive right of occupancy." Mr. C. B. Trevor, also a Judge of the High Court, was of opinion that the "occupancy section of Act X. of 1859, is a great infringement on the law previously existing. It introduces a new classification of all ryots into those with right of occupancy and those without right of occupancy, making length of tenancy the distinction between them, and abolishing the old distinction of resident and non-resident ryots with their separate rights, moreover, whether read retrospectively or prospectively, it curtails the power of the zemindar." Mr. E. T. Trevor, member of the Board of Revenue, remarked: "It follows, therefore, that I am of opinion that the sixth Section of Act X. of 1859 has conferred new rights upon all pykasht ryots in Bengal who have held the same land for more than twelve years and, of course, so far, has encroached upon the rights of the zemindar to consider them mere tenants-at-will, and as such a liable to be ousted when their lease has expired, if they held under a lease, or, as soon as the crop was off the ground, if they did not so hold." Notwithstanding this array of opinion in their favour the zemindars do not now propose to alter the law about the occupancy right. They are quite willing to secure to the occupancy ryot the fixity of tenure, which he now enjoys. But the Government is not content with this concession. It proposes to confer the occupancy right upon every squatter for every plot of land he may occupy provided he has the same right in some land in the same village or estate. This principle of making singular mean plural, and that a multitude, is unique and iniquitous.

II. *Transferability of the occupancy tenure.*—It has been repeatedly ruled by the highest Court in the land that the occupancy right is heritable but not transferable, except under special agreement. The judgment of the Full Bench of the High Court, Surendra Narayan Roy vs. Essan Chunder Sen, is conclusive on this point. Chief Justice R. Couch remarks: "It is a right to be enjoyed only by the person who holds or cultivates and pays the rent, and has done so for a period of twelve years. It does not speak of his acquiring a right which he might, having acquired it, transfer or make use of as a subject of property; but it seems intended to secure to a ryot who has cultivated or held for 12 years a continuance of his cultivation or holding as long as he pays the rent. And the provision at the end of the section by which the holding of a father or other person from whom the ryot inherits is to be deemed the holding of the ryots supports this construction; for it appears to show that except in that particular case the holding must be entirely by the person who claims the right. This is a law, which imposes a restriction upon the proprietory right of the zemindar or landlord, and a ryot cannot claim under it anything more than the words clearly give to him. There are not here, in my opinion, words of so doubtful a meaning that we should consider whether it would be just or equitable that the ryot should have the power to transfer. The ordinary construction of the word appears to me to be that the right is only to be in the person who has occupied for twelve years, and it was not intended to give any right of property, which could be transferred." Further: "Now, if a ryot having a right of occupancy, endeavours to transfer it to another person, and in fact quits his occupancy and ceases himself to cultivate or hold the land, it appears to me that he may be rightly considered to have abandoned his right, and that nothing is left in him which would prevent a zemindar from recovering the possession from the person who claims under the transfer. And not only may he be considered to have abandoned it, but if the right which is given by the law is one which exists only so long as he holds or cultivates the land, when he ceases to do that by selling his supposed right and putting another in his place, his right is gone and cannot stand in the way of the landlord's recovering possession. If it were not so, the law would become nugatory. The position of things would be that the transfer by the ryot involves, and gives the transferree, no right to the possession; but the ryot could not recover possession from the transferree, as he would be bound by his act of transfer; nor could the landlord recover possession because the outstanding right in the ryot would be in the way. The result would be that, although the transfer is invalid, the transferree would be able to keep possession and to set the landlord at definance. I think in this case it may be considered either the ryot has abandoned his right altogether, and therefore it cannot be set up as an answer to the suit by the landlord for possession; or that his right has ceased, has been put an end to, because it existed only so long as the ryot himself continued to hold or cultivate the land."

The zemindars, however, agreed to the legalization of the sale of occupancy tenures in satisfaction of decrees for rent, and suggested that where a zemindar might adopt this remedy, a tenure once so sold should be declared to have become a transferable tenure. The Lieutenant-Governor had practically accepted the sugges-

tion. In a letter to the Government of India dated the 22nd February 1878, Mr. Secretary Reynolds wrote :

The Lieutenant Governor has, with some reluctance withdrawn the proposal that the occupancy right shall be generally transferable by private sale or other agreement. The weight of opinion is in favour of this proposal, as will be seen by a reference to the letter of the Board of Revenue and His Honor is satisfied that such transfers would not have the bad effect which has been sometimes apprehended, and that they would not tend to transfer the land to classes whose ownership it might not be thought desirable to encourage. He believes that such a right of transfer would be much to the benefit of landholder and ryot. It appears, however, that the landlord class are strongly opposed to the concession of any general right of transfer, and the Governor-General in Council has expressed serious doubts as to the expediency of including such a provision in the Bill. The Bill therefore only proposes to recognize sales of occupancy tenures at the request of the landlord in execution of decrees of court, and to this the Lieutenant-Governor believes that no objection will be made.

In the new Bill the transferability of the occupancy tenure is made absolute and unconditional.

III. *Transfer of occupancy tenure to a cultivating ryot.* Sir Ashley Eden had advocated the sale of the occupancy tenure to *bona fide* cultivators. The British Indian Association on behalf of the zemindars gave adhesion to this proposal in the following terms :

While the Committee concur with His Honor that the transfer of the occupancy tenure should be restricted to the cultivating ryot, they consider it highly necessary that the actual cultivator should be accurately defined. The absence of such an accurate definition has, as the Committee have already remarked, been the primary cause of dispute and litigation. The actual culitivator is he who tills the land with his own hands or by hired labor and has an immediate connection with agriculture and the produce of the soil by taking part in agricultural operation. But the question is if the status of the occupancy ryot were defined in this sense would it prevent him from converting himself into a middleman ? His Honor the Lieutenant-Governer remarks: "If after securing transferability of tenure to the occupancy ryot (a right which he already possesses in many parts of the country), provisions were made in the law to prevent his converting himself into mere middle man, and for strictly regulating the character of the subletting to which an occupancy ryot must limit himself, it would seem that a great improvement would be effected in the law of tenant right in Bengal, such as would tend to raise the value of property and increase the landlord's security for his rent." It is not explained how subletting in an occupancy ryot would be regulated. Should he be allowed to sublet his tenure and to live upon the rent of his lands and not required to establish his position as an actual cultivator ? By his immediate connection with the tillage of the soil, either with his own hand or by hired labour, he would become to all intents and purposes a middleman, and in that case the objections which are taken to the absolute transfer of the occupancy right would remain in full force. Further, the sale of the land would not then be restricted to the cultivating class. The Committee make no doubt that His Honor in passing the law will guard against the possible conversion of the cultivating ryot into a middleman. With proper safeguards the Committee have no objection to the proposal that the transferability of the occupancy tenure, restricted to the cultivating class, should be recognized by law.

The new Bill, however, contains no such restrictions. On the contrary it will give facility to the mahajun, the indigo-planter and others to buy out the occupancy ryot, and will hold out encouragement to sub-letting by converting the latter into a middleman. The result will be that the *bona fide* cultivator, in whose interest the concession was made by the zemindars, will go to the wall.

IV. *Enhancement of Rent.*—Three suggestions were made by the British Indian Association on this subject : *viz.*, the determination of the rent of the occupancy ryot on the principle of the Punjab and Oudh Tenancy Act, II. the determination of the rate of rent according to the rule of proportion as laid down by the majority of the Judges of the High Court in the great Rent Case of 1864, III. the determination of the rate of rent by dividing the produce of the land in certain proportions between the landlord and the tenant. With regard to the first point the British Indian Association said that the simplest way for adjusting the rent of the occupancy ryot would be to take competitive value of land, and by comparing the rent paid by an occupancy ryot with the same paid by *kurfa* or *burga* ryot, to apportion the difference between the two in the proportion of three-fourths to the zemindar and one-fourth to the ryot. The process would obviate the enquiries and calculations which would be necessary to assertain the increase in the value of produce within a given time. This kurfa or burga ryot answers what is called a non-occupancy ryot, and by settling the rent of the occupancy ryot at one-fourth less the difference of the rent paid by him and what is paid by the former, the provision would practically give to the occupancy ryot a privilege, which he did not possess under the prior laws nor does he possess under the present law. The Association pointed out that under the Oudh Rent-law the deduction allowed was twelve and a half per cent. compared with the rent paid by the non-occupancy ryot, whereas they had suggested 25 per cent. of the difference. But this recommendation was not accepted. The second proposal was not workable and the Association did not recommend it. The third point was the division of the produce of the land in certain proportions between the landlord and tenant. Taking rent to mean a portion of the produce yielded as an equivalent for the use and occupation of the soil the British Indian Association urged that this was the principle on which the demand upon the land was settled in the days of the Hindu and Mahomedan rulers of the country, and is still followed in the Native States. This principle was broadly accepted by the Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed to enquire into and report on the affairs of the Hon'ble the East India Company, *vide* the celebrated Fifth Report, p. 18, Madras edition. It was also ably enunciated in Mr. H. L. Harrison's note dated the 6th March 1880 printed in the appendix to the Report of the Rent Commission Vol. II. If a reference were made to the history of rent in times anterior to the Permament Settlement, it would be found that it varied from three-fourths to one-half. Thus Sir John Shore in his Minute on the Permanent Settlement dated 21st December 1789 says :—"The proportion paid by the cultivators to the soil may be reckoned at a half, or it may never perhaps, to three fifths of the gross produce." It would appear from certain jummabundi papers of the 24-Pergunnahs that 7-12ths were the zemindar's share, and 5-12ths that of ryot. The rates prescribed for the ceded provinces of the North-West by Clause 14, Section 53 Regulation XXVII. 1803, shew the rate of rent fixed by Government The Association proposed that keeping the present rent as the standard rent any enhancement of it should be in the proportion of increase in the value of produce, that is to say 25 per cent to the zemindar and 75 per cent to the ryot. This letter was however somewhat ambiguously worded. It has been taken to mean that the whole rent should be fixed on the gross value of produce in the proportion of 25 per cent for the zemindar and 75 per cent for the ryot. Taking advantage of this concession the Government now proposes to reduce the zemindar's share to 20 per cent ! It is the old story—yield an inch and they will take an ell.

VI. *Currency of enhanced rent.*—The zemindars with a view to give the land rest have themselves proposed that in no case of enhancement the present rents should be more than doubled, and that the enhancement in every case should have a currency for ten years. Now, there are officers of Government, who recommend the extension of the period from 10 to 30 years !

VI. *Quarterly instalments.*—Formerly monthly kists were the rule, but in order to afford relief to the ryot the zemindars have themselves agreed to quarterly kists and counterfoil receipts. Mr. Secretary Reynolds in his letter to the Government of India dated the 22nd February 1878 writes : "The sections regarding quarterly days of payment, and the granting of counterfoil receipts, have been introduced in accordance with the suggestions of the British Indian Association."

VII. *Execution of decrees.*—In consideration of the above compromise the Lieutenant Governor had proposed the following, *vide* Mr. Reynolds' letter referred to above :

The procedure with regard to the execution of decrees is a matter upon which the British Indian Association lay more stress than upon any simplification of the procedure for the hearing of the suit. It has been sought to render the procedure in execution cases more speedy and efficient by providing that execution may issue on verbal application, that ejectment may be directed for arrears other than those at the end of the year, that an occupancy right may be sold in execution of decree, and that crops belonging to subordinrte tenants shall be held liable to distraint.

All this has however been swept away from the new Bill.

VIII. *Enhancement suit.*—Enhancement under the present law is sought for by suing for arrears of rent at an enhanced rate after service of notice in the month of Pous, commencing from the ensuing year. As the judgment in the enhancement suit is open to appeal by either party up to the Privy Council, the separation of the current demand from the enhanced rent is necessary for the benefit of both the landlord and tenant. If the enhancement of rent be made a separate suit, the ryot will be saved much expense, trouble and harassment.

These are some of the most prominent concessions proposed by the zemindars, and yet it is said that they are too hard-hearted and too obstinate to make any compromise.

PROPRIETORY RIGHT IN ZEMINDARY LAND.

A LATE friend of ours, whom for the purposes of this article we will name K—, had for sometime taken to the modern craze of spirit manifestation, and in season and out of season was overflowing in its praise. Asked if he believed in a *bhut*, he would say, " *chho* ! *chho* ! it is an absurd native prejudice, and no sane man could have any faith in it ;" but when questioned about the possibility of the spirit of the dead ever visiting the earth to turn tables, recount the condition of their celestial or aerial life, or teach the art of ovisuction, he was always ready with an emphatic " of course ; there is no doubt about it ; Judge Davis has proved it." In fact poor K— was a creature of words, and the whole course of his life was governed by words, without any regard for their meaning. Nor was he singular in this respect ; in one way or another most men of the unthinking class, and the great bulk of young students are governed by words. Catch-words are their hobbies, and when they get them they will ride down to any where. Statesmen, administrators and leaders of parties know this well, and take advantage of this weak point in the public mind whenever it suits their purposes. Party cries are entirely due to this cause, and our Government has resorted to them to a very large extent in connexion with the Bengal Tenancy Bill. " Proprietory Right," "Fixity of Tenure," "Fair Rent," and " Free Sale" are the shibboleths, and young and unsophisticated men run riot with them. The offers implied are tempting, and few have the patience to enquire what they really mean. Even so do charlatans prey on the gullibility of suffering humanity. A nostrum is warranted to cure a particular disease, and a pledge is added that if the medicine should fail, the price thereof would be refunded. A simpleton tries the medicine, and, finding no relief, claims a refund. "Pray, good man, how long are you suffering ?" asks the vendor. " For six months." " And how long have you tried the medicine ? " For a fortnight." " And you want to cure a disease of six months' standing in a fortnight ? Buy six bottles more at five rupees each, and, if they fail in six months, come to me, and the price will be refunded to you." Without meaning any offence, we cannot help thinking that the Government panacea for the woes of the raiyats has very much the same appearance. Proprietory right ! Why, we in our days of frock and frill understood it to mean that of which we were absolute masters, and that for the use of which we had to pay a rent or hire, belonged to another, and we had no proprietory right in it. But those un-

sophisticated old-world days are gone, and we are now called upon to admire the wisdom of giving the proprietory right in the soil to the tenant—mark the word tenant in this conjunction—and force him to pay punctually every quarter a "rent" or "hire" to the non-proprietor, the landlord, every default on the part of the so-called proprietor being visited with expulsion from his proprietory right! It was the tenant who in the days of old John Company paid rent to the proprietor, but it is the proprietor who is called upon in these days of pragmatic Rent Commissioners to pay rent to the non-prietor. Would if this plan could be made to follow a similar transmogrification in the relation between masters and servants—servants paying wages to their masters—the Judges of the High Court, the Secretaries to Government, the official Rent Commissioners paying monthly wages in silver or gold to Her Majesty's Government! The idea is so absurd that we would have never thought of taking any notice of it, but for the gravity, solemnity, and sententiousness with which the question as to whether the zemindar or the raiyat is the real proprietor of the soil has been discussed by the astute Rent Commissioners, and the attempts which have been made from time to time by various writers—notably of late by Babu Nuffer Chunder Bhatta and Babu Ashuthosh Mukerji,—to controvert their position. For us, we would be quite content to call our tenants proprietors, if they will continue to pay rent to us regularly and punctually under the penalty of being sold out of home and hearth for every default, and leave us our right, as the law does, though in a gingerly, miserly, captious way, to enhance the rent from time to time. We would prefer this by far to haggling about such foreign words as proprietor, tenant, rent, hire and the like, and wading through musty Regulations and obsolete old records to come to their true import. Leave us our rose intact, and call it a *ghentu* if you will. It is a pity, however, that most people are not of our kidney, and they will ever run after words, and never care for their meaning. Has not a Sismondi sung the praises of "the peasant proprietor who pays no rent to any one above him," and a Mill played the second fiddle to him? And if a Lieutenant-Governor offers the peasant proprietory minus the rent business, it is one half got, and fools must rejoice at it. There is no gainsaying such a choice. Without it how can people pose as raiyats' friends and universal philanthropists? They will have the play of Hamlet with the part of Hamlet left out; or, to paraphrase a Bengali proverb—they are determined to feast on bread and milk, though the materials they can command are sour-curds and whey.

Nor is the plan proposed to secure this proprietory right less remarkable than the nature of the right itself. The majority of the Rent Commissioners hold that the right always existed with the tenant, and the zemindars had always been rent collectors and not owners, so the Government has now only to restore the right to its legitimate owner. It is true, they admit, that Lord Cornwallis has used the word 'proprietor' in connexion with the zemindar, but that, they urge, is due to that humdrum, simple-minded, old nobleman's not knowing the exact meaning of that word. They do not say this in so many words, but what they say amounts to it. The accuracy of their deduction, however, is not admitted by others. Mr. Amir Ali, an earnest defender of Government, has discovered in the *Nineteenth Century* of the last month, that one Hashamuddin, an old-world Arab jurist, had laid down, he does not say when or where, that the land always belonged to the sovereign, and that there was no such thing as private proprietory right. As a matter of course no Akbar, or Ferishta, or Todar Mull could undo that—and the right of the sovereign must be admitted "in spite" of those worthies. The writer does not tell us whether the right resting with the sovereign, the said sovereign could grant an *Altumgah*, and how far such grant would be valid in the present day. The "rent-collector" theory has also some hitch about it. People in their simplicity might ask, was Kansanarayan, who wrested the Kingdom of Bengal from the Pathan king of his time, was a rent-collector, and are his descendants, the Rajas of Tahirpur, now only mere Amils? The Rajas of Khurda were sovereigns until 1802. The Rajas of Vishnupur, of Beerbhoom, of Gorukhpur, of Nuddea were also sovereigns in their own right and at no time amils, and do their descendants now hold their estates as "rent-collectors" only? Territorial chiefs like those of Durbhanga, Dinajpore, Jessore, Nattore, Putia have held their estates from centuries before the days of Lord Cornwallis, and their position in the olden days could hardly be called that of amils. Anyhow the theories of neither the Rent Commission nor of its advocates have been accepted by Government. The scheme of declaring every squatter who had scattered a handful of seed as an occupancy raiyat, though strongly advocated by the Rent Commissioners, has been abandoned. It was too bare-facedly spoliatory to suit the proprieties of modern civilization. The thing, however, has to be done, and the higher authorities have solved the problem. There is the law of prescription, and it is recognised by all civilized communities, so it has been put under requisition in the present juncture. The law in its integrity requires protracted *adverse* possession; but "adverse" is a small word, and being adverse to the project in hand, has been quietly dropped. The principle then stands that whoever holds possession as a tenant for twelve years *ipso facto* acquires proprietory right in his possession. This was done in 1859, and quietly accepted by those who were thereby despoiled. The embers of the Mutiny were then still smouldering, and it was not fit time for the people to express any dissatisfaction at the action of Government. The period of twelve years has, however, now been found to be too long. It does not promote the transfer of the zemindars' right to persons more susceptible to taxation than the zemindars under the existing laws are, with sufficient rapidity to meet the requirements of the case. The plea is of course the good of the present class of raiyats, but, as we have shown in our article on Free Sale, it is a plea of no great weight. It appears from the Registration Returns that between 30 and 40 thousand occupancy tenures are being created or changing hands every year. But they are not enough, and more are wanted. The limit of 12 years is at the same time not desirable to be altered, and the plan proposed is to undermine it by skilful definition. Occupancy now means and always meant actual residential possession of a particular spot for an unbroken period of 12 years; but even as in the case of the law of prescription difficulty was overcome by the quiet dropping of the word adverse, so it is now proposed to drop the word unbroken, and make residence mean residence anywhere within two miles or more, of a village or any number of miles away from the spot so long it is within a single estate. The Burdwan Raja's estate may extend from Burdwan to Hughly, and a person having an occupancy right in Hughly may any day go and squat on a hundred-acre field at Burdwan, and at once acquire occupancy right thereon. He may, moreover, live eight years at Hughly and then settle for four years at Burdwan and counting his eight years at Hughly establish his 12 years' occupancy at Burdwan after four years' actual occupancy there. Nay, if he cannot do that he may count the residence of his deceased father in one village as a part of his residence in another. Do what he will his right of occupancy will mature any how. Nor is this right the privilege of an individual. It belongs not to the person, but to the property, which when once converted into an occupancy tenure must ever remain so, for the benefit of future raiyats who may come to rent it. This is not for the benefit of any existing person, but for the permanent despoiling of the landholder. The simplicity, justice and fair play of the policy is admirable, and in the interest of many impecunious people who live by flying kites we should like very much to see it introduced in the Law of limitation. If a man has put in circulation half-a-dozen promissory notes of different dates, or left a dozen bills of different dates unliquidated and one of them happens to be barred, let all the others be barred by the *vis inertia* of the barred one. Such a plan would soon enable the Government to close the Insolvent Court as useless and obsolete. And should greedy Shylocks or ill-behaved tradesmen try to commit a fraud on the intention of the law-makers by resorting to the Civil Courts before any limitation accrues, the Government has the remedy in its own hands; it has only to denounce them as horrible, cruel monsters in the annual administration reports, even as it denounces zemindars who resort to law too prequently to recover their legal rights. Those who grant five-year leases act up to their right and within the terms of the law, but that does not promote the rapid formation of occupancy right, and so they must be circumvented even without openly changing the law.

THE QUARTERLY ON INDIAN AFFAIRS.

UNDER the sensational title of "The Indian Crisis," a writer in the last number of the *Quarterly Review* discusses Lord Ripon's policy. The object of this paper is to criticise the home policy of the present Government of India during the past three years. The writer thinks that the future historian will find it difficult to explain the strange inconsistencies of Lord Ripon's Indian career. "His financial administration," he says, "has been successful. The abandonment of the customs duties suggested to the Indian community a somewhat too ready deference to English agitation; but the reduction of the salt duties, and the improvements effected in the accounts and in the provincial assignments have undoubtedly strengthened the position of the Indian Exchequer. In this important department of his administration the Viceroy has owned and deserved credit." It will be seen that the *Quarterly Reviewer* approves of the abandonment of the customs duties and the reduction of the salt tax—measures which, to our thinking, have involved a needless sacrifice of revenue, without benefiting the tax-payer. Times of famine or war will conclusively show whether the surrender of three millions a year which has given no appreciable relief to the people, has strengthened the position of the Indian Exchequer.

While the *Quarterly Reviewer* speaks so highly of Lord Ripon's financial administration, he condemns in no measured terms the two great measures with which his Lordship's name is connected. He holds that these two measures are revolutionary, and exhibit a reckless departure from the sound traditions of the past. He makes the following observations on the Local Self-Government policy:—"The elimination of the District Officers from the internal administration of the country boards would paralyse the executive in times of trouble or famine, and in times of quiet would arrest progress. If the measure is persisted in, it will throw back the history of India by centuries. It may be urged that between the development of Lord Mayo's policy and Lord Ripon's departure of May 18, 1882, there is but a difference of degree; but the chasm is so wide that it separates statesmanship from folly." Again: "Lord Lawrence built his whole administration, and constructed the Empire after the great rebellion upon the prestige or *ikbal* of the District Officer. It was an axiom with him that bureaucracy destroyed individuality and independence. He looked to the civilization of the vast area of India, and of its multitudinous races, by the individual energy of Collectors scattered throughout the country. He sought their advice, encouraged them in self-reliance, and taught them, by his example, as well as by his precept, to identify themselves with every movement of the people entrusted to their care. Lord Ripon has systematically rejected their advice, scorned their experience, and publicly announced that this scheme of self-government is to be based on the largest diminution of local control, and on the free distribution of titles of nobility conferred by the Viceroy. Lord Mayo laid the foundations of self-government in the alliance of local officers with local boards, and their freedom from central control." We are entirely at a loss in understanding how Lord Ripon's Local Self-Government policy runs counter to the traditions of the past. The *Quarterly Reviewer* cites the high authority of Lord Lawrence in support of

his condemnation of the principles laid down in the famous Resolution of 18th May last year. But let us hear what Lord Lawrence himself said about the desirability of extending and developing municipal institutions in this country. In a Resolution recorded by the Government of India on 31st August, 1864, we came across the following remarkable passage :—"Great public benefit is to be expected from the firm establishment of a system of municipal institutions in India. Neither the central Government nor the local Government is capable of providing either the funds or the executive agency required for making improvements in all the cities and towns of India which are demanded by the rapidly developing wealth of the country. *The people of India are quite capable of managing their own affairs.* The village community, which is a little republic, is among the most abiding institutions. Holding the position we do in India *every view of duty and of policy should induce us to leave as much as possible of the business of the country to be done by the people.*" The italics are ours. Lord Lawrence thus distinctly says that the people of India are capable of managing their own affairs and the Government should leave as much as possible of the business of the country to be done by them. What, after all, is meant by the elimination of the District Officer from the local bodies? The Local Self-Government scheme is not intended to set aside district officers. Their powers of control are very full and effectual. They have full power of obtaining information and inspecting works, and they are expected to use that power to keep themselves acquainted with the working of their local boards and municipal committees. The Local Self-Government scheme will not render the people independent of the District Officers, and will not remove responsibility from the latter in an important part of district administration. The prestige of the Disirict officer will not be affected at all by the measure. He will continue the same autocrat and the local bodies will be absolutely at his mercy as now.

The *Quarterly Reviewer*, of course, sharply criticises the Ilbert Bill. He observes :—"The history of the Native Jurisdiction Bill illustrated at every step the danger of comprising practical politics with sentimental administration. Until the Viceroy endorsed the illogical sentiment, that the right vested in European Magistrates to try a European Criminal implied a stigma upon the native Magistracy no such notion ever entered the head either of an Englishman or of a sensible native. Political institutions are not even rough-hewn, much less shaped in an Utopian workship, but are the result of the growth of society, and of the adaptation of its inherited institutions to the growing wants of the country." . . . . Again :—"Lord Ripon in the pursuit of a morbid policy of the sentimental symmetry has treated politics as if they were an abstract science which could be studied and applied in the recesses of his office at Simla. Without even consulting the European Colony, he has threatened to deprive them of the privileges which Lord Mayo's Act conceded to them. . . . The European newspapers of India have unanimously condemned his recent policy, and declared that he has lost or forfeited public confidence. As an expression of English sentiment the English press of India is entitled to every respect. . . . The agitation has become more widespread and intense. If there is an occasional calm it is the calm of the centre of a cyclone. We need no further proof of the dangerous consequences of delay Every hour that the present crisis lasts throws back the legitimate aspirations of the native populations by whole years. A reaction is inevitable, and in the interests of the natives, as much as of the European community public opinion at home should insist upon the immediate retreat of the Viceroy from an untenable position." It has rarely been our lot to read such a tissue of patent untruths and deliberate misrepresentation as is contained in the passages quoted above. Lord Ripon is not pursuing a morbid policy of sentimental symmetry. His Lordship is only redeeming honestly and boldly the noble promises embodied in the Charter Act of 1833 and Queen's Proclamation of 1858. The assertion that the European newspapers of India have unanimously condemned the Viceroy's recent policy is utterly false. Many influential English papers—such as the *Bombay Gazette*, the *Madras Times*, theCalcutta *Statesman*—have given cordial and warm support to the two measures, which the *Quarterly Reviewer* so sharply criticises. If he had any knowledge of Indian history, he would know that a fiercer storm than that now raging disturbed the sea of Indian politics when the Black Act of 1836 was proposed by Macaulay or when Lord Canning, after the Mutiny, protected the Natives of India from the indiscriminate vengeance of the Europeans. The simple truth is, whenever anything is attempted to be done for the Natives the Anglo-Indians raise a howl. The *Quarterly Reviewer* in conclusion calls upon the British public to decide whether England is "to rule India in the interests of the vast population, or at the bidding of the noisy minority." Yes, English public opinion must decide whether India is to be governed upon the principles of the Queen's Proclamation of 1858 or upon those of the opponents of Lord Ripon's policy. Parliament is the arbiter of the destinies of India, and we must bow to its decision. It is, however, noteworthy that the opponents of Lord Ripon's policy have not shewn any anxiety to have a debate on the subject in the House of Commons.

MR. AMEER ALI ON THE RENT BILL.

MR. AMEER ALI has written on the Bengal Rent Bill in the pages of the *Nineteenth Century*. It would seem as if the well-known powerful twins in the Rent Commission have spoken through this able and amiable Mahomedan Barrister and ex-Magistrate of Calcutta. Of course he brings before the public nothing new—but he is an out-and-out supporter of the new act of spoliation, and he has not hesitated to palm upon an unquestioning British public bold assertions which he calls facts and fanciful statements which he holds up as historical truths. He begins by saying : "It will thus be seen that prior to the Cornwallis Regulations, there is not to be found in the constitution of the country the smallest trace of a class of persons answering to the modern zemindars and possessing the rights and privilegss now claimed for them ; entitled by immemorial custom to override the just rights of the cultivator ; empowered to increase the burden of the ryot at their own free will ; and acknowledging no check on their avidity save their own sense of justice" Leaving aside the sensational way in which he has put the case—for those who contend that there were zemindars in existence in the pre-British period do not contend that they used to override the just rights of ryots or to increase the burden upon them at their own sweet will—we ask Mr. Ameer Ali to say whether the great houses of Bengal and Behar, almost regal in their authority, in the vastness of their possessions and in grandeur, were myths or realities. We will invite his attention to the following extractfrom Mr. Rouse's book on landed property in Bengal published last century :

"It seems to me to result indisputably from the deductions of history contained in the foregoing pages, that zemindars, as persons possessing land either in their own right, or by successive renovation of grant, are of a considerable, perhaps of high antiquity, but that the present Sunnud, upon which only their title to this land has generally been supposed to rest, is of comparatively modern institution. So that whether the Sunnud now in use commenced under the reign of Akber, or that of Aurungzebe ; I trust I shall not be thought presumptuous in contending that the zemindary property existed independent of the Sunnud, and was not at least not within any ascertainable period, created by it. However, although it did not create, the Sunnud may have confirmed the property. Judicial functions may have been superadded by it. After a recent conquest, it might be prudent for the conqueror, and safe for the proprietor to receive a charter of confirmation. Or the lands of persons who had been engaged in rebellion, having been sequestered and seized by the rightful, or what is in effect the same things, the successful party ; which is the practice of all nations under every description, with more or less of ceremonial process : they might be added to the districts of some faithful adherent, and a charter would then become necessary to establish the new proprietor upon the exclusion of the former. Or it might be expedient in the case of acquisition by purchase, to confirm in like manner the possession of the purchaser.

In stating these cases hypothetically, I conceive, that I really describe by analogy, the occurrences of our own country, at those unhappy periods of our history when the contentions of the royal houses produced continual revolutions in the kingdom ; and of all other nations under similar circumstances. Large tracts of land in England and Wales were so conveyed by charter from the successful competitor : and the titles of the present owners are deduced from them. The description will equally apply, with a change of terms only, to explain the origin, enlargement and consolidation of several of the great zemindaries of Bengal."

So much for the assertion that there was not a trace of a class of persons answering to the modern zemindar prior to the Permanent Settlement.

We now come to the Permanent Settlement itself. Mr. Ameer Ali says :

In almost every case, extensive tracts of waste lands, tracts which were in some districts once populous and flourishing, but which the inroads of marauders and the convulsions of a dying empire had denuded of their population, were made over to the zemindars with the other lands of their estates. Their reclamation afforded ample room to the zemindars to add to their income. But in accordance with the ancient custom of the country, ryots setting and creating villages on the lands were entitled, in the first instance, to special privileges as breakers up of virgin soil, and afterwards to all the rights of resident cultivators. As a matter of fact, the great landed proprietors of the present day have no reason to complain, for their incomes from land in the course of the last quarter of a century, in spite of all drawbacks, have, in almost every case, doubled or trebled, or increased by even higher multiples.

Now read Section 31, Regulation II of 1819 :

"Nothing in the present Regulation shall be considered to affect the right of the proprietors of the estates, for which a permanent settlement has been concluded, *to the full benefit of all waste lands included within the ascertained boundaries of such estates* respectively at the period of the Decennial Settlement, and which have since been or may hereafter be reduced to cultivation. The exclusive advantages resulting from the improvement of all such lands were guaranteed to the proprietors by the condition of that Settlement."

Comments on the above are superfluous. Then Mr. Ameer Ali writes :

But, generally speaking, it may be affirmed that the land industry of Bengal is in a very backward condition. In the next place, though the value of produce in Bengal is increasing, there can be little doubt that there is a sensible increase in the expense of cultivation and a decrease in the yield of the produce.

Read the following speeches of Sir Ashley Eden :

"Great as was the progress which I knew had been made in the position of the cultivating classes, I was quite unprepared to find them occupying a position so different from that which I remember them to occupy when I first came to the country. They were then poor and oppressed, with little incentive to increase the productive powers of the soil. I find them now as prosperous, as independent and as comfortable as the peasantry, I believe, of any country in the world ; well-fed, well-clothed, free to enjoy the full benefit of their labour, and able to hold their own or obtain prompt redress for any wrong." Speech at Dacca, 1877.

"I can assure you that nothing has given me greater pleasure than to notice, as I have had ample opportunities of doing, the extraordinary improvement in the condition of the people of Behar. It is made manifest in a hundred ways daily, even to the most casual observer. I hear the same story from all classes, official and non-official, and it is a matter for general congratulation.

"This improvement is due to various causes : first and foremost, to several succeeding harvests, plentiful almost beyond the recollection of the present generation, and these full harvests followed years of trial and famine ; next there has been, with growing prosperity and increase in the value of land, a *general awakening* of the cultivating classes, and an improved knowledge of their legal rights and privileges and this has, I hope, been accompanied by a strict administration of the law. Then there has been a greater readiness on the part of landlords to recognise and affirm the rights of cultivators, and I hope that this may to some extent be due to the influence of your Association." Speech at Bankipore, 1881.

Does the above emphatic testimony prove that land industry in Bengal is in a backward state and that the ryots are in a depressed condition ?

We need only remark that the universal testimony is that the peasantry of Bengal are far better off than any other class of the population, particularly the poor middle class with fixed incomes, and that the "life-problem" is by no means keen with them. We are sorry that one, who aspires to teach the public mind in England, should preach as facts what cannot bear the very touch of examination.

But we have no heart to carry on controversy with a writer, who deals and delights in systematic misrepresentations. We have a high regard for Mr. Ameer Ali personally, but in this instance under what influence we care not to enquire he has strenuously avoided facts. We will give one more instance. The writer says : "The zemindars have all along asked for a law which would enable them to enhance the rents of *their ryots* at their own discretion, and to realise such rents without the necessity of a recourse to Law Courts, as implying a check on the liberty of their action." Now, is this the truth ? Do the zemindars wish to avoid or override the law in raising the rents of their tenants or to realize rent without recourse to law ? The whole literature on the subject of the Rent-Law does not contain one

passage from the zemindars in support of this extraordinary statement of the writer, and yet he deliberately thrusts it down the throats of the British public. We are always ready to make allowance for honest differnce of opinion, but we confess we cannot tolerate deliberate misstatement of facts. We are sincerely sorry that such a sober and sensible writer as Mr. Ameer Ali should lend himself to unreasoning partizanship.

THE EURASIANS AND THE ILBERT BILL.

THE attitude assumed by the Eurasians of the Bengal Presidency with regard to the Ilbert Bill has been a puzzle to us. To all persons possessed of a grain of common sense it is as clear as the most elementary proposition that the East Indians have nothing to do with the question as to whether Native Magistrates and Judges should or should not be invested with criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects. The passing or rejection of the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill does not affect them in the slightest degree: they do not either gain or lose by it. We are, therefore, exceedingly glad to observe that the Eurasians of the Southern Presidency have taken up a sound position with regard to the burning question of the Ilbert Bill. At a recent meeting of the Council of the Anglo-Indian Association of Southern India held at Madras, the following resolution was carried unanimously:—"The Eurasians of the Madras Presidency and such domiciled Europeans as have joined the Eurasian and Anglo-Indian Association of Southern India being loyal subjects of Her Majesty the Queen Empress of India resolve to stand by the British Government of India in the cause of law and order." On the occasion of the passing of this resolution, Mr. D. S. White, the able President of the Association, read a very interesting and instructive paper explaining the position he had taken with regard to the Ilbert Bill. This paper we commend to the careful and attentive consideration of the Eurasians of the Bengal Presidency, who have thoughtlessly allowed themselves to join the Independent Britons in the agitation against the Bill.

Mr. White justly remarked at the outset that in a crisis like the present it was the duty of a representative man like him to speak out without a fear or favour. He said:—"I am a representative man and what I say will be accepted as coming from the whole Eurasian and domiciled European community. The Calcutta Eurasian and Anglo-Indian Association is in conflict with the Associations at Madras and Bombay." He continued:—"The Ilbert Bill does not affect them (the Eurasians) for they are now under Asiatic Criminal Jurisdiction everywhere, and it is absurd to suppose that they will be allowed the same immunities as Europeans have enjoyed; domiciled Europeans are deliberately putting the razor to their children's throats in joining the outcry, for the only status their children have for higher official employment is that conferred by the Act of 1870, which made them natives of India." The wisdom and sound sense which characterise the passage just quoted can not be sufficiently admired. From the beginning of this unfortunate controversy Mr. White has decided to abide by the definition of "Natives of India" as given in 33 Vic. Cap. 3.,——the Act which declared that additional facilities should be given for the employment of Natives of India of proved merit and ability in the Civil Service. This is the intelligible and sensible position for an Eurasian to take. Mr White states in plain and emphatic terms that the principle of the Ilbert Bill is unassailable, and he thus characterises the present agitation:—"Supposing the clamour succeeds to its extreme limit, do men understand how far they are going? Is authority to be transferred from duly constituted Governors and handed over to irresponsible European agitators? What bargain, under seal are they to strike with the Eurasian and domiciled European community, or will they convert it into a lower caste? Is a new Slave Power to arise in India? We are all agreed that Brahmin domination was the curse of the country. Can not people discover the beam in their own eyes? Is England likely to tolerate such a state of things or come down upon it with its mighty crushing force? Who is to be the future Emperor Great Mogul of India? Is it to be Mr. Branson or Mr. Atkins, or the Behar Planter, with his two hundred and odd sabres. I tell you to-night that this agitation, pure and simple, against the Ilbert Bill has reached the ridiculous stage, and in a month or two it will be laughed out of court." Again:—"Pursued to its logical conclusion, the situation is this. The clock must be put back in India, and that is impossible. Education and missionaries must be withdrawn, and the great policy of England must be pronounced a dream. I hold that the modification of the religious, political and social thought of the Asiatic population of India is a wonderful manifestation of the powers of the English as civilizers. I, therefore, bow my head with shame when I see men not cognizant of that which is their greatest glory; and I feel inclined to exclaim:—"Thank God I am not an Indianized Englishman. Thank God I am a poor and despised Native of India, for my senses are left to me." Well said. We earnestly hope our Anglo-Indian fellow subjects will ponder over these words replete with sound sense and remarkable breadth of view. Mr. White's utterances will find an echo in the heart of every true man who is not blinded by ignorance or prejudice.

The most interesting portion of Mr. White's paper is that which deals with the question of investing statutory civilians with criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects. He is in favor of conferring the proposed jurisdiction upon Native Civilians who have entered the service through the door of competition. He points out that the question for decision is, who, in addition to Competitive Native Civilians should be invested with power to try European British subjects; and he answers that the power should be conferred upon Uncovenanted Civilians who have proved their merit and ability. The present Statutory Civilians, Mr. White observes, have committed no crime, but that the late Viceroy made a great mistake in constituting the Native Civil Service as it is. He says:—"I have a grave charge to make against Lord Lytton and his advisers. They are responsible for the introduction of the present Statutory Civilians, the very men whose investment with criminal jurisdiction has so exasperated the European community. Let the European community now discover and mete out stern justice to them. They and Lord Lytton are the men who did the mischief which is shaking Indo-European society to its very centre. They played with the Act of 1870. They set aside its wise provisions. They framed the rules needed to give effect to the Act which gave the best men in the Uncovenanted Service stones for bread. Under the Act, if it had been carried out in Madras in its integrity, such men as Messrs. Muttuswami Iyer, Sashah Shastri, Ramiengar, Rangacharly, Cheutsal Rao, Ferrand, Hamnelt and Schariliele would have been Statutory Civilians, and who in his sober senses could have objected to giving criminal jurisdiction if circumstances demanded the measure. But these men were set aside. And for whom? For men who have yet to prove their merit and ability. For the very men to whom objection is now raised. I have lived long enough to know that there is a retribution in this world. And retribution will soon come to those who committed what was undoubtedly a blunder, and who dared to play fast and loose with an Act of Parliament. I speak under the best information when I impeach the action of Lord Lytton and his advisers. I break no confidence when I tell you that rules framed in accordance with the Act were to have been announced at the Delhi Assemblage, and that Lord Lytton was talked over into substituting the deformity which has ended in what I cannot help characterising as a White Rebellion." If the intentions of the framers of the Act of 1870 had been duly carried out and *Natives of India of proved merit and ability* had been appointed to the Native Civil Service, not a word could have been said against the proposal to invest Statutory Civilians with criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects. When the Native Civil Service was constituted by Lord Lytton four years ago, we distinctly pointed out that the step taken was at variance with the provisions of 33 Vic. cap 3, which provided facilities for the employment of Natives of India of proved merit and ability in the Civil Service of Her Majesty in India. But for the grave blunder committed by Government the Statutory Civilians would have been the picked men of the Uncovenanted Service instead of being, as they now are with one or two exceptions, aristocratic noodles; and then no reasonable objection could have been raised to their being invested with power to try European British subjects. But we think it is not yet too late to remedy that mistake. We look up to Lord Ripon to solve satisfactorily the great and important problem of the higher employment of Natives in the public service. This problem, in spite of repeated solemn pledges given by our rulers, has remained unsolved. Well does Mr. White say that "when the present excitement has subsided and men's minds are calm, Lord Ripon will get a statue with the inscription that he was the most noble, the most conscientious, the greatest and the most Christian Viceroy that ever ruled India."

THE SPOLIATION OF INDIA.

A FEW weeks ago we noticed a portion of Mr. J. Seymour Keay's remarkable article entitled "The Spoliation of India" in the July number of the *Nineteenth Century*. After showing that the direct tribute wrung from the Indian Treasury by her rulers amounts to 30 millions sterling yearly and that in addition to this sum no less than 1¼ millions are taken every year by Europeans as profits on trade between England and India, the writer dwells on an enormous military expenditure. It has been proved beyond the shadow of a doubt that our military expenditure, swallows up revenues in a proportion far exceeding anything known in any other country in the world. The Simla Army Commission made recommendations which, if carried out, would have resulted in reductions to the extent of 1½ millions sterling; but its report has been quietly shelved. It was announced the other day that the India Office had decided on the retention of the Presidency Commands. The present unnecessarily costly system is to be maintained simply because the Horse Guards are not prepared to forego the valuable patronage which it provides. Mr. Seymour Keay, we are sorry to observe, is against the usefulness of the Native army. He holds that this army is not only useless in time of peace, but it is a positive danger as the events of 1857 have clearly shown; and that it has no other *raison d'etre* than simply to furnish appointments for its European officers. He would gladly see India relieved of the burden. We feel bound to say that Mr. Seymour Keay has done a grave injustice to the Native army of India. Lord Northbrook in his famous Birmingham lecture delivered about three years ago acknowledged in emphatic and generous terms the bravery skill, and high character of the Bengal Madras and Bombay troops, and recognised the glorious part which the Native army had taken in the Afghan war. As Mr. Seymour Keay speaks of the Native Army as a positive danger and cites the events of 1857 to establish the position taken up by him we cannot resist the temptation of quoting the following passages from Lord Northbrook's lecture:—"It must not be forgotten, that when the madness of a moment [as Sir James Outram called the Mutiny of 1857] struck the mass of the Bengal Army, the native troops raised in the Punjab under Edwards and Nicholson, supported by the courage and the wisdom which have made the name of John Lawrence dear to his fellow countrymen, gave—at a most critical moment—assistance and support, without which the struggle before Delhi might have had a very different result. And in the memorable siege of the Residency of Lucknow, in which the thoughts of every Englishman were absorbed during many weary months of suspense, faithful native soldiers, shared all the privations and all the dangers of the British

garrison." And here is the testimony of Lord Lawrence himself: "Without the aid of the peoples we could never have weathered the storm of 1857. However great, however heroic the exertions of our own countrymen in evil days, they were overmatched in the struggle; and could never have maintained themselves against the overwhelming odds to which they were opposed, had they not been zealously aided by the efforts of loyal Natives. It is no exaggeration to say that thousands of Native soldiers fought and suffered for us in those terrible times. From the Punjab alone, I estimate that from first to last, not fewer than 80,000 Native soldiers were engaged on our side during the Mutiny. In the seige and storm of Delhi, in particular, it is difficult to say how great was the benefit we derived from these services." These extracts will, we trust, convince Mr. Seymour Keay that the Native Army has rendered valuable services to the State, and is not useless, as he supposes. We admit the Native Army is not so useful as it might be; but that simply because the people are absolutely excluded from the commissioned ranks of the army. The army as a career is absolutely closed to educated men of good families. The military spirit of our native chiefs must be content with the rank of jemadar or soubadar. "With a loyal and high-spirited native army officered by native gentlemen bound to the throne by a sense of indentity of interests with it," as the *Statesman* pertinently observed the other day, "our military expenditure need not be 10 millions a year." We must also tell Mr. Seymour Keay that our enormous military expenditure can be materially lowered without reducing the strength of the army European or Native by one single man, or without impairing its efficiency in the least. In 1861 the English and Indian armies were amalgamated in direct opposition to the remonstrances of Lord Canning and of almost every Indian statesman of authority and experience. Since the amalgamation of the two armies India has had to pay at least twice as much for her recruits as she would have to pay if she could obtain them for herself. If India were again permitted to recruit for herself as in the days of the East India Company, our military expenditure would be much smaller than it now is.

Mr. Seymour Keay speaks of the complete estrangement now subsisting between the governors and the governed in this country and of the demoralizing effect of British rule in the character of the native. The wide gulf between the rulers and the ruled prevents the former becoming acquainted with the thoughts and feelings, wishes and wants of the latter. It cannot be denied that it is impossible to govern an alien people well without a thorough knowledge of their condition and institutions. But he would be a bold man who should venture to say that our rulers possess this invaluable knowledge. And as they do not know the people they govern, the real masters of the country are the ill-paid and notoriously currupt subordinates in the various departments of the administration. It is through these men that the hakim is to be approached, and they know well how to take advantage of their position. Mr. Seymour Keay quotes numerous testimonies to show that the people of India are getting poorer every year under British rule. "The mass of the people," said Lord Lawrence, "are so miserably poor that they have merely the means of subsistence. It is as much as a man can do to feed his family, or *half feed them*, let alone spending money on what you would call luxuries or conveniences. The supporters of the ryotwari settlement of Madras and Bombay are never tired of dilating on the blessings which the system is said to have conferred on the peasantry. But here is a description of the condition of the ordinary peasant proprietor from the pen of one of the ablest revenue officers in the Madras Civil Service: "It may certainly be said of almost the whole of the ryots, that they are always in poverty and generally in debt. A ryot lives from hand to mouth. He rarely sees money. His dwelling is a hut of mud walls and thatched roof, and destitute of any thing that can be called furniture. His food, and that of his family, is thin porridge made of meal boiled in water or boiled rice, with a little condiment. Generally the only vessels for cooking and eating from are of the coarest earthenware, unglazed and much inferior in grain to a good tile or brick in England. As respects food, house, and clothing, the labourer is in a worse condition than the poor ryot above spoken of. In fact, almost the whole of his earning must necessarily be consumed in a spare allowance of coarse and unwaried food, and a bare sufficiency of clothing. The wretched hut he lives in can hardly be valued at all." Although the mass of the people in this country are so miserably poor, yet their taxation has been steadily increased in the last forty years from 19 to 50 millions annually. It is all very well to say that India is lightly taxed in comparison with England; but let us hear what Mr. Seymour Keay says on the subject. "The average annual income of the people of England is £32 per head, out of which £2½ are paid in taxes. The average annual income of the people of India is now less than £2 per head, of which wretched pittance we extort 6s. as taxation, leaving them for their own support, even in good seasons, a much smaller sum per head than is found absolutely necessary to maintain native prisoners in the Indian criminal goals." Comments on this are superfluous. As regards the land-tax, Mr. Seymour Keay justly remarks that though it may not look heavy in comparison with land rent in England, but owing to the low production of the Indian soil, it is really a crushing burden, which is much aggravated moreover by the rigid way in which a fixed amount is levied by the State in good and in bad seasons. We regret we cannot share Mr. Seymour Keay's views on the opium and salt questions. He is very much mistaken in thinking that the opium trade is an immoral traffic and that the salt-tax presses hard on the people. In both these matters Mr. Seymour Keay has allowed himself to be guided by sentimental philanthropists. We have discussed in these columns the salt and opium questions threadbare during the last few years and do not therefore think it necessary to enter into them here. We will only tell Mr. Seymour Keay that he is lamentably wrong in assuming that the salt tax is an invention of British rule. As a matter of fact, this impost which is so admirably suited to the circumstances of the country has always existed in India, and has never been felt as a burden by the people. Nevertheless, we agree with Mr. Keay in thinking that in some instances the working of the salt taxes has proved grievously oppressive. But this evil can be remedied without abolishing a source of revenue, which yields millions annually, without the people feeling the burden in the least.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

WE HEARTILY welcome back Mr. Robert Turnbull, the amiable and popular Secretary to the Calcutta Corporation, to the scene of his labours, thoroughly renovated in health. He arrived last evening.

WE HAVE received from the Board of Revenue a copy of the rules which it has framed in the Customs Department for the entry, clearance, and reshipment of goods intended for the coming International Exhibition. The rules are fair and reasonable.

WE UNDERSTAND that the Lieutenant-Governor offered to Mr. H. L. Harrison, the Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation, the Presidency Commissionership during the absence of Mr. Monro. Before taking any step in the matter Mr. Harrison consulted some of the leading members of the Corporation on the subject, and they were unanimously of opinion that it would be a serious loss to the town, if he should leave the helm of its municipal affairs at the present moment. We are exceedingly glad to learn that Mr. Harrison has resolved to abide by this opinion. He is an active, hard-working and zealous officer; he is a thorough master of the situation in the municipality, and he has done much in promoting harmony among the different sections of the community represented in the Corporation. We would have ample cause to growl against the Lieutenant-Governor, if he should snatch away from us this useful and deserving officer, who has suited the Corporation, and whom the Corporation has also suited. We believe Mr. Smith will take up the Presidency Commissionership unless he considers residence in Calcutta more expensive than the same in Cuttack.

THERE has been a short jute crop this year in Bengal. Owing to heavy losses for the last five years the ryots have reduced the breadth of cultivation, and the result is an enormous rise in the price of jute, about 50 per cent. or more. We hope the condition of the trade this year will induce the ryots to extend the cultivation next year.

WE HOPE something will at last be done to remove that standing nuisance at Tallah, the Railway crossing of the Eastern Bengal Railway at that place. A petition was lately submitted to Government on the subject, and Mr. Levinge, the Public Works Secretary, has communicated to "Maharaja Jotindromohun Tagore"—somehow the prefix "Sir" has dropped off from the official archives of the Bengal Secretariat—who headed the signatories, the following communication to the Government of India:

Dated Darjeeling, the 14th May 1883.

Sir,—I am directed to report that this Government having received from time to time several Petitions from merchants and others carrying on business at Cossipore, Baranagore and other suburbs, north of Calcutta, complaining of the inconvenience experienced by them at the Tallah crossing on the Chitpore Branch of the E B. Railway by the passage and shunting of trains for several minutes together to and from the Chitpore terminus, referred the matter to the Consulting Engineer for enquiry and report. That officer reported that 8 hours was the average number of hours the gates were kept closed during each day of 24 hours in the months of November, December, January and February last, and also stated that the E B Railway Company had resolved to make certain additions and alterations to the sidings in order to obviate the inconvenience represented; but as it was feared this would not be sufficient, the Consulting Engineer was again called upon to report on the effect of the alterations after they had been completed and worked for a month. Since then, His Honor's attention has been frequently invited to the inconvenience caused to traffic by the closing of these gates by Maharajah the Hon'ble Sir Jotendro Mohan Tagore and others, who have represented that the temporary arrangements which have been made are far from satisfactory. I am therefore to state that the only solution of the difficulty appears to be the construction of an over-bridge.

The Lieutenant-Governor is aware that the present position of the contract with the Eastern Bengal Railway Company is an obstacle in the way of having the bridge constructed by the Company, but the inconvenience felt from the want of it is so great that His Honor trusts some way will be found of causing it to be built without delay.

I have &c., (Sd.) S. T. Trevor, Col., R. E. Offg. Secretary.

We hope necessary steps will be taken early in the matter.

THE ENGLISHMAN is quite welcome to rattle away against the Ilbert Bill, but our contemporary really mistakes his vocation when he vents his spleen against the poor native officers. He drags the following case to public notice to point his moral that the Ilbert Bill is inflating the Native Magistracy:

Mr. Davis is the Chief Clerk of the Insolvent Court and Official Receiver of the estate of Roy Chunder Sen, deceased, on which presumably the riot, referred to in the charge, is alleged to have occurred. Though the charge is obviously a false and absurd one, and though in any case Mr. Davis is not amenable to the jurisdiction of the court of Babu Kali Nath Bose, that gentleman is dragged away on four days' notice, at the most unhealthy time of the year from his legitimate employment in Calcutta, to a remote sub-division of the district of Faridpore to defend himself.

The summons is a mere exhibition of insolent swagger and the case can, of course, end in but one result. But in the meantime it is a cause of most serious discomfort and vexation, and will entail, probably, the expenditure of thousands of rupees, as it is necessary to take up a legal advocate from Calcutta to defend it.

The Magistrate must have known perfectly well that he had no legal right to issue a summons against a European British subject. But the mere possibility, a possibility, we believe, daily becoming more remote, of the Ilbert Bill passing into law, has so lowered the European status, that an insignificant creature like this Deputy Magistrate has the audacity to attempt to abuse the criminal process of his Court for the purpose of persecuting a European, even when, as under the special circumstances of the present case, he enjoys, as an official receiver of the High Court, its peculiar protection.

Our contemporary forgets that as a landholder the European British subject is liable to the jurisdiction of Native Magistrates in certain matters, and this is one of them. As the case is *sub-judice*, he ought to have kept quiet about its merits. It is a pity that our contemporary should lose his temper over such small matters.

IN THE same article our contemporary says:

It is not long since a Native Deputy Magistrate in the Bhagulpur district requested an influential Englishman to procure a certain appointment for a relation of his. The request was refused, and shortly afterwards the Englishman received a summons to meet a criminal charge at the camp of the Deputy 18 or 20 miles distant. The Englishman wrote back claiming his privilege as a European British subject, and the answer he received was that, if he did not obey the summons, a warrant would issue, as the native Magistrate claimed the right to drag him into his Court for the purpose of trying the question whether he really was a European British subject or not. But the Englishman in this case was not a High Court official, and consequently did not feel himself prevented by official considerations from treating the threat of the Deputy Magistrate as it deserved to be treated. The reply he returned was that he would resist the process by force of arms, and we need hardly say the process was never issued. But a weaker man, or a woman, might have been subjected to endless harassment and grave indignity by being dragged about from camp to camp to deck the triumph of the native Dogberry.

If the facts be as stated above, why is not this peccant officer handed up to Government.?

THE INDIAN WITNESS, a missionary organ, says:

We hardly think the missionaries of Calcutta have any reason to complain of the tone of the Press, whether European or Native, in discussing the great libel case. Considering the extraordinary temptation which was offered, we feel bound to say that all, or nearly all, the papers which have discussed the character of missionaries and their work, have shown a degree of forbearance which would hardly have been witnessed in London, and certainly not in New York. The *Hindu Patriot* upholds the judgment, and writes from an anti-missionary point of view, but in temperate language. Strangely enough, the *Indian Mirror* and the *Patriot* take opposite sides for contradictory reasons. The *Mirror* supports Miss Pigot because, for one reason, she did not, like other missionaries, make proselytes. The *Patriot*, on the other hand, values missionaries except in this one respect that they "proselytize," but strangely enough condemns the one mission in which this policy was not followed.

We are afraid we have been misunderstood. With regard to proselytizing we directed our remarks against the Christian missions generally and not against any one mission particularly.

THE SAME PAPER has the following:

One good result of this trial will be, we have reason to believe, that a more strict and conscientious inquiry will be made into the expenditure of missionary money. If any money in the world is sacred, it is that which is given by the pious poor to send the story of the Saviour's love to those who do not know him. It is easy to spend this money in ways less unworthy than in purchasing whiskey, and yet not strictly for missionary purposes. We fear that not a few unworthy men and women live upon this sacred fund by getting employment in mission service. Aside from the question of expediency, we submit that money which is given with much prayer and self denial should be expended with the utmost conscientiousness. No doubt a hundred missionaries will rise up to protest that they never spend a *cowrie* for a doubtful purpose, but their protestations will not alter the fact that in some cases this money is scattered among the unworthy.

This candour does honor to our contemporary. The priestly nature is the same all the world over, whether the priest be the minister of Christ or Krishna.

THE GREAT MISSIONARY CASE we are afraid is not likely to come to an end soon. It is shooting forth branches. One branch has sprung into existence in the shape of a criminal charge against the editor of the *Statesman* by Messrs. Roberts Morgan and Co., attorneys-at-law, for publishing certain alleged libellous matters against them. From what fell from the Magistrate it would seem that the case is likely to be sent up to the sessions. According to the *Liberal* Babu Kali Churn Banerjea may bring a libel suit against Mr. Hastie. So it never rains but pours.

A VERY interesting meeting of the British Indian Association took place last week. Mr. Joubert, the great promoter of the Calcutta International Exhibition, having expressed a desire to make acquaintance with the Committee of the Association, the latter invited him to meet them on Wednesday last. Mr. Joubert was present accompanied by his Secretary, Mr. Walpole. Dr. Rajendralala Mitra, President of the Association, was in the chair. Among the members of the Committee there were present Maharaja Sir Jotindra Mohun Tagore Bahadur K. C. S. I. Maharaja Narendra Krishna, Raja Poorno Chunder Sing, Babu Joykissen Mookerjea, Babu Peary Mohun Mookerjee, Newab Mir Mahomed Ali, Babu Judulal Mullick, Babu Joggodishnath Roy, Babu Jogendra Chundra Ghosh, Babu Damudardas Burman, Babu Benodebehary Mullick, Babu Nilcuml Mitter, &c. The President introduced Mr. Joubert to the meeting, who delivered a very interesting address, reviewing the different exhibitions in which he had assisted and dwelling on the advantages of an international exhibition for India. He gave a brief account of what has already been done in forwarding the Exhibition. He gave a high compliment to the industrial men of this city, who he said in intelligence, energy and willingness to work were equal to their brethren in any part of the civilized world. If they were led properly and encouraged liberally, they would he held render work most cheerfully. He then invited the assistance of the Committee in some matters of detail. The President thanked Mr. Joubert for his excellent address and also offered to lend him the assistance and co-operation of the Association in furtherance of the great undertaking he had in hand. The meeting separated with a vote of thanks to the chair.

APROPOS of the above the *Englishman* has the following:

The members of the British Indian Association invited Messrs. Joubert and Walpole to a meeting at their rooms in British Indian Street on Wednesday afternoon last. Dr. Rajendralal Mitra took the chair. The object of the interview was to learn from Mr. Joubert the object, scope and aim of the Exhibition in a general way, and its probable effect on the trade and manufactures of the country. Mr. Joubert, from his long apprenticeship to such meetings and such questions, was here quite at home, and gave them the most glowing description of the wonder working powers of an Exhibition. In speaking of its popularity, he said his greatest difficulty was to find sufficient space for the many applicants who wished to exhibit, whereupon a gentleman, standing up, said that that difficulty surely could be easily got over by the erection of more sheds and the creation of more available space, to which Mr. Joubert replied that there was not much time to spare, and that there was another question "money" that a great deal of money had been already laid out on the buildings, and he was reluctant to increase the expenditure; whereupon the gentleman replied "Oh! if it's a mere question of money, I am a very well known man in Calcutta, as my friends around can tell you, and I shall be most happy to let you have a lac of rupees for the purpose if you require it." This most liberal offer quite astonished Mr. Joubert, who walked up to the speaker, and putting both his hands on the gentleman's shoulders said "Let me have a good look at you, old fellow. You are the first man who ever offered me £10,000 in my life, and you may be sure I shall remember you as long as I live, and tell the tale in my own country when I go home." The gentleman adhered to his offer, and assured the meeting that he was perfectly sincere and had not spoken idle words, but it was accepted. Mr Joubert told them if they wished the ladies and females of their families to see the Exhibition, he would be glad to let them have a zenana day, or night, and to leave the arrangements as far as possible in their own hands, but one of the gentlemen present said:—"You know what Napoleon said about the Russian, if you scratch him you'll find the Tartar below. I am afraid the same may be said of us. If you scratch the English educated western mannered Hindu, you'll find the original eastern Hindu underneath, and we don't like our females to leave their appartments." After promising to assist Mr. Joubert all in their power by circulating his vernacular notices amongst their friends and ryots in the mufasal, the meeting terminated. The members seemed quite fascinated with their guests, and the guests delighted with their hosts.

THE MUNICIPALITY of Hooghly proposes to provide the towns of Hooghly and Chinsurah with filtered water supply. The cost is estimated at Rs. 80,000. The Municipality can provide only Rs. 20,000 from its own funds, and has therefore invited public subscriptions. The Hon'ble Durgachurn Law, who is a native of Chinsurah, has offered to contribute the munificent sum of Rs. 10,000 on condition that the bulk of the native inhabitants will be supplied with water, and that no tax will be levied upon them. We do not know whether the last mentioned condition will be acceded to. We are no less surprised than sorry to hear that Mr. Beames, the Commissioner, and Mr. Wyer, the Magistrate are at a daggers drawn on the subject. The project is Mr. Wyer's.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE with thanks the receipt of the English Translation of the Mahabharatha, Part III., published by Babu Protap Chunder Roy. This is an enterprise hitherto unattempted in this or any other country, which has any regard for the sacred classics of India. It was almost recklessness on the part of a single individual in the position of the publisher to launch upon such a vast national undertaking as this, but it is enterprising individuals of his stamp, who by their unflagging industry, indomitable energy, and single-minded zeal and devotion do the work of a nation. We cannot therefore sufficiently admire the enterprising spirit of Babu Protap Chunder Roy. We hope the discerning public will lend him help and co-oporation.

BABU ASHUTOSH MUKERJEA, M.A. B.L., Premchand Roychand student, and a Vakil of the Bengal High Court, who has already distinguished himself by his writings on the Rent-Law, has published another pamphlet entitled "the Annals of the British Land Revenue system in Bengal from 1698 to 1793." These annals are very interesting and admirably arranged. They give a brief but connected history of the British land-revenue system in Bengal. The East India Company acquired land in Bengal under the zemindari title. On acquiring the Dewany the East India Company's servants found that the zemindars were a powerful body of men, and they sought to reduce their power by calling them collectors of revenue. The Supreme Court in Calcutta, taking the Company's men at their word, used to issue writs against the zemindars in the Mofussil. The Company's Government, however, did not like this, and at last the matter came to an issue in connection with a suit against the Raja of Cassijorah in Midnapore. We will allow Babu Ashutosh to describe the case in his own words:

At length a case arose in which the disputes between the executive and judicial powers arrived at a crisis. In 1779, a suit was commenced in the Supreme Court against the Raja of Cassijorah, in Midnapore, by one Kassinath Babu, his agent at Calcutta. By the rules of the Court, no process was issued against any native of Bengal, unless the plaintiff swore that such native was subject to the jurisdiction of the Court, and added in his affidavit circumstances which rendered him so subject. Upon the affidavit of Kassinath Babu, which affirmed that the raja was the zemindar of Cassijorah, employed by the East India Company in the collection of the revenues of his zemindary, a *capias* was ordered to issue, in which bail to the amount of three lakhs and-a-half was allowed to be taken. The Government referred the matter to their Advocate-General, Sir John Day, who gave it as his opinion that "zemindars were landholders, and held their lands and right by inheritance." A literal translation of this opinion was sent to the raja, who was also instructed not to pay obedience to the process of the Court. The writ of *capias* having been returned as unexecuted, on account of the concealment of the zemindar, another writ was issued to sequester his land and effects. In the execution of this writ, the Sheriff dispatched to Cassijorah an armed force, consisting of sixty men, headed by a serjeant of the Court. The Governor-General sent orders to the officer commanding at Midnapore to apprehend all persons answering to the description which had been given of this detachment. The orders arrived too late to prevent the violation of the rajah's zenana, and of his religion, "the former having been forcibly entered, the women and children having indeed been conveyed away upon the first alarm; the door of his temple broken open and his idol taken and packed like a common utensil in a basket, and sealed up with the other lumber," as Mr. Hastings, described the affair in a private letter. But the whole of the party sent by the Sheriff were afterwards seized. Affairs having come to this extremity, the Governor-General and Council issued a notification to all zemindars, chowdhries, and talookdars, in Bengal, Behar and Orissa, that, except in the two cases of being servants of British subjects or bound by their own agreements, they were not to consider themselves as subject to the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, or to obey its process.

The Supreme Court thereupon issued a rule to show cause why an attachment should not issue against the Company's attorney and the officers who were instrumental in seizing the Sheriff's officers and their attendants at Cassijorah, and the Governor-General and Council themselves were served with a summons to answer to Kasinath Babu in a plea of trespass. But a reconciliation was soon after effected between the governing Council and the Supreme Court, by the bestowal of an office of great power and emolument dependent upon the pleasure of the Council, upon the Chief Justice, Sir Elijah Impey.

So in this case the proprietory status of the zemindars was vindicated. This pamphlet is replete with matters of great interest.

Darlington's Pain-Curer has been found to be certain cure for Pains on the Back, Lumbago, Pains in the Chest, Sore Throats, Coughs, Colds, Tightness of the Chest, Bronchitis, Diptheria, Headache, Toothache, Earache, Neuralgia, Colics, Rheumatism Paralysis, Pains in the Groins, Contracted Joints, Gout, Sciatica, Bad Legs, Bad Breasts, Swellings, Old Sores, Ulcers, Piles, Ringworm, Pimples, Freckles, & Eruptions on the Skin. May be had retail or wholesale, direct from their Establishment, 49, Dhurrumtollah, Street, Calcutta,

Beware of other worthless imitations.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN CONSUMPTION AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST.—The medical Profession of all countries now consider Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil as incomparably the most valuable remedy for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest. No remedy so rapidly restores the exhausted strength, improves the nutritive functions, stops emaciation, checks the perspiration, quiets the cough and expecto-

ration, or produce a more marked and favourable influence on the local malady. Dr. Waudby, Physician to the Hereford Infirmary, writes :—I can take Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil without any difficulty or dislike, and with as little inconvenience as water alone. Not only in my own case, but in many others I have seen, it has caused an improvement of chest symptoms and an increase of weight, so soon and so lastingly, as to be quite remarkable. I believe Dr. de Jongh's Oil to be the most valuable remedy we possess for chronic and constitutional disease." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co., 77, Strand, London.

COMMERCIAL.

(FROM OUR COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Saturday, 29th September, 1883.

There has hardly been any change of importance in our commercial affairs to characterize the operations of the present week from those of the past, except the dismal position of the market for Joint stock shares details of which will be found below.

Piece-Goods of commercial descriptions found buyers to some extent, but when the transactions are reviewed by the light of those of preceding years, they appear to be very insignificant, and clearly show the unhealthy position into which the piece-goods trade is fast drifting into—prices drooping.

Yarns.—In country manufactured low counts there were limited transaction at previous rates whilst import kinds remained idle.

Exports.—Recent discouraging advices from European markets for wheat and oil-seeds restricted operations. Tea continued to find buyers, at the last public sale held on the 27th instant 1243 chests were offered, all found buyers but 786 chests. There was good animation and previous rates well sustained.

Linseeds—limited transactions, prices drooping.

Wheat market quiet, price drooping about 1 to 2 annas.

Rices.—Inferior qualities continued to be in request and prices have advanced 2 to 3 annas, whilst table sorts remain unaltered.

Jute.—Later arrivals leave most buyers without least difficulty at the current rates which were high enough to admit of any further rise—the present position of Jute combining with no demands for manufactured goods have helped the prices to drop considerably: the present stock is calculated to be about 50,000 against 200,000 maunds this time last season.

MONETARY.

Money has been in great demand but difficulty has been experienced to find accomodation even at high rates of interest, the present minimum rate at the Bank of Bengal is 8 per cent. for loan on deposit of Government Securities.

Government Securities have been in less enquiry—the following prices ruled at the close 4 per cent. 98-10 to 98-11 and 4½ per cent. 103 to 103 4.

JOINT-STOCK SHARES.

This market has been unexceptionally depressed for all kinds of stocks chiefly for those of Jute industries for which prices have dwindled per 50 to 60 Rs. to share within a very short time with a further tendency to decline. Several parties have declared their inability to take delivery of their parcels which being forced into the market are realizing lower rates.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.	Rs.	As.	P.
District Engineer, Bhaugulpore	14	4	0
K. B. Bose Esq., Ranchi	3	0	0
Secretary Rajshye Association	13	4	0
Public Library, Cooch Behar	13	4	0
Thakur Protap Roodar Singh, Sitapore	13	4	0
Pubna Govt. School	13	4	0
P. Kunampi Esq., Teliparumba	0	5	0
Babu Jogendra Nath Bose, Chundernagre	6	10	0
,, Issan Chunder Biswas, Banka	6	10	0
,, Mutty Lal, Secunderpore	3	5	0
,, Kalipodo Banerjea, Berhampore	6	10	0
,, Nemy Churn Bose Roy Bahadur, Balasore	13	0	0
,, Rasbehary Chatterjea, Gobordanga	15	0	0
,, Issar Chunder Das, Dacca	13	4	0
,, Bepin Behary Mukerjea, Kandi	10	0	0
,, Chunder Cumar Roy, Sundaram	10	0	0
,, Durgadas Dutt, Meral	10	0	0
,, Nilkanth Gangoly, Ambariah	13	4	0
,, Chintamony Mahanty, Pipli	8	14	0
,, Mohesh Chunder Singh, Sultangachi	21	14	0

Advertisements.

TO LET,

For the Exhibition season the upper flats of a three-storied house situated in Koomertolly Street. It has 13 well ventilated rooms and a spacious hall on the 2nd flour; and six rooms on the 3rd; and is only 15 minutes drive from Government Palace.

Apply to Babu Anath Bundhoo Mondul,
1. Koomertolly Street, Calcutta.

MULLICK NEPHEW & Co.
GRAND POOJA PREPARATION.
TAILORS. MILLINERS, SHIRTMAKERS, ALL SORTS OF READY-MADE DRESS, AND GENERAL ORDER SUPPLIERS.

373—4 *Upper Chitpore Road, Jorasanko Calcutta.*

Mullick Nephew & Co., beg to invite the attention of their Patrons, the Public of Calcutta and the Mofussil to their Grand Pooja Preparation and Solicit patronage to their Choice Varieties of Satin assortment of the latest fashion.

WANTED.

Some Native Guards for the Calcutta and South Eastern State Railway. Applications with copies of testimonials will be received, by the undersigned up to the 15th proximo. None need apply who has not been a guard on a Railway. Full particulars of service on other Railways should be given in the applications.

Manager's Office, No. 3' Sealdah, Calcutta, The 15th September, 1883. } R. G. MUKERJEE, Manager.

BENGAL TENANCY BILL FUND.

Amount already advertised ...	Rs.	57,018.
Subscriptions since promised ...	,,	7,850.
Total ...	Rs.	64,868.

Subscriptions will be received by the under-mentioned Sub-Committee:—

Babu Rajendra Lala Mitra, L.L.D., C.I.E.
Maharaja Sir Jotindra Mohun Tagore Bahadoor, K.C.S.I.
Maharaja Norendra Krishna Bahadoor.
Hon'ble Doorga Churn Law.
Hon'ble Kristo Das Pal. C. I. E.

British Indian Association Rooms, Calcutta, The 29th Sept. 1883. } KRISTODAS PAL, Secy. Central Committee,

NOTICE.

No. 150	Ahiritola Street,	3 storied house		Rs.	28,000
,, 148	Do	2 storied house		,,	4,000
,, 147	Do	2 ,,	,,	,,	5,500
,, 146	Do	3 ,,	,,	,,	2,500
,, 145	Do	3 ,,	,,	,,	2,500
	Burdwan Mahajontola.				
	1 storied house			,,	800
	Banares Misirpooker.				
	3 storied house			,,	6,000

Intending purchasers are requested to send in their offers early to the Manager.

MOHESH CHUNDER SINGH.
Manager, Sultangachi Estate, Tumlook.

CALCUTTA AND SOUTH EASTERN STATE RAILWAY.
NOTICE.

On and from 1st October next the following additions and alterations will be made in the train arrangements:—

1. The Canning train will leave Calcutta at 7 A.M. instead of 10 A.M. and return from Canning, leaving that station at 2-20 P.M., instead of 4-45 P.M.
2. The 3 o'clock down and No. 1 up trains will run, to and from Mogra instead of Barripore as at present, but on Saturdays the former will run to Diamond Harbour, on Saturdays the latter will run from Diamond Harbour.
3. No 2 will leave Diamond Harbour at 6-21 A.M., instead of 5-50 A.M., and arrive at Calcutta 9-20 A.M., as at present.
4. No. X down train will run to Diamond Harbour on Saturdays only and on week days train will run to Barripore as at present.
5. No. IV up will run from Diamond Harbour on Mondays leaving that station at 7-1 A.M. and arriving at Calcutta at 9-50 A.M., but on other week days it will run from Barripore only as at present.

For further particulars see Time Table.

Calcutta, The 26th Sept. 1883. } R. G. MUKERJEE, Manager.

A SPECIAL General Meeting of the Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta will be held at the Town Hall on Monday, the 1st October 1883, at 4 P.M.

BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD,

To confirm the acceptance of Messrs. Cochrane Grove & Co.'s tender for the supply of 48 inch pipes for extension of water-supply.

To confirm the proceeding of the water-supply Extension Committee at meetings held on the 20th and 27th September 1883.

To sanction Chairman's nomination to appointment of superintendent of water-works.

To confirm the proceedings of the Town Council at meetings held on the 18th and 27th August, and 1st, 15th and 22nd September 1883.

To confirm the proceeding of the Bustee and Tank Committee at Meetings held on the 18th August, and 13th September, 1883.

C. W. HOPE.
Acting Secy to the Corporation.

The Calcutta Phrenological Institute.—Members invited. Phrenological Works, sold or hired. Instructions given, and Heads Examined, free at the institute. Catalogue, available:

R. B. Doss, Practical Phrenologist.

89, Chuna Gully, Calcutta, 15th May 1883.

WANTED.

An Overseer on Rs. 100 per mensem including travelling allowance.

Preference will be given to the graduates of the Engineering College who have worked for at least 3 years in the P. W. Department.

Applications for the appointment together with copies of testimonials will be received up to the 20th October 1883.

Dhubri, The 19th September, 1883. } District Engineer, Goalpara District.

WANTED by the Road Cess Committee, Lohardagga District, two competent Sub-Overseers possessing the qualification of Sub-Overseer D. P. W., and having practical knowledge and experience in Road making and constructing masonry bridges. They should also be able to ride.

Salary Rs. 30 with travelling allowance Rs. 7-8 per mensem, each.

Applications with testimonials are to be sent to the undersigned.

RANCHI, District Engineer's Office. } W. VENKATAREDDY NAIDU District Engineer.

Notice.

Wanted a passed Midwife for the Gya Pilgrim Hospital on a salary of Rs. 20 per month with permission to have private practice. Applications with copies of testimonials will be received by the undersigned up to 31st October, 1883.

Gya, Municipal Office, The 19th Sept., 1883. } (Sd.) BHUPSEN SINGH, Vice-Chairman.

FOR SALE

CALCUTTA EXHIBITION.

A two storied *pucca* house (new) with garden and two tanks adjoining at Newgipara in the Northern Suburbs of Calcutta. Only an hour's drive from the Exibition. Apply to the Proprietor at No. 210/3, Cornwallis Street, Calcutta.

শ্রীমদ্ভাগবত।

একসহস্র মাত্র বিনামূল্যে বিতরিত।

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